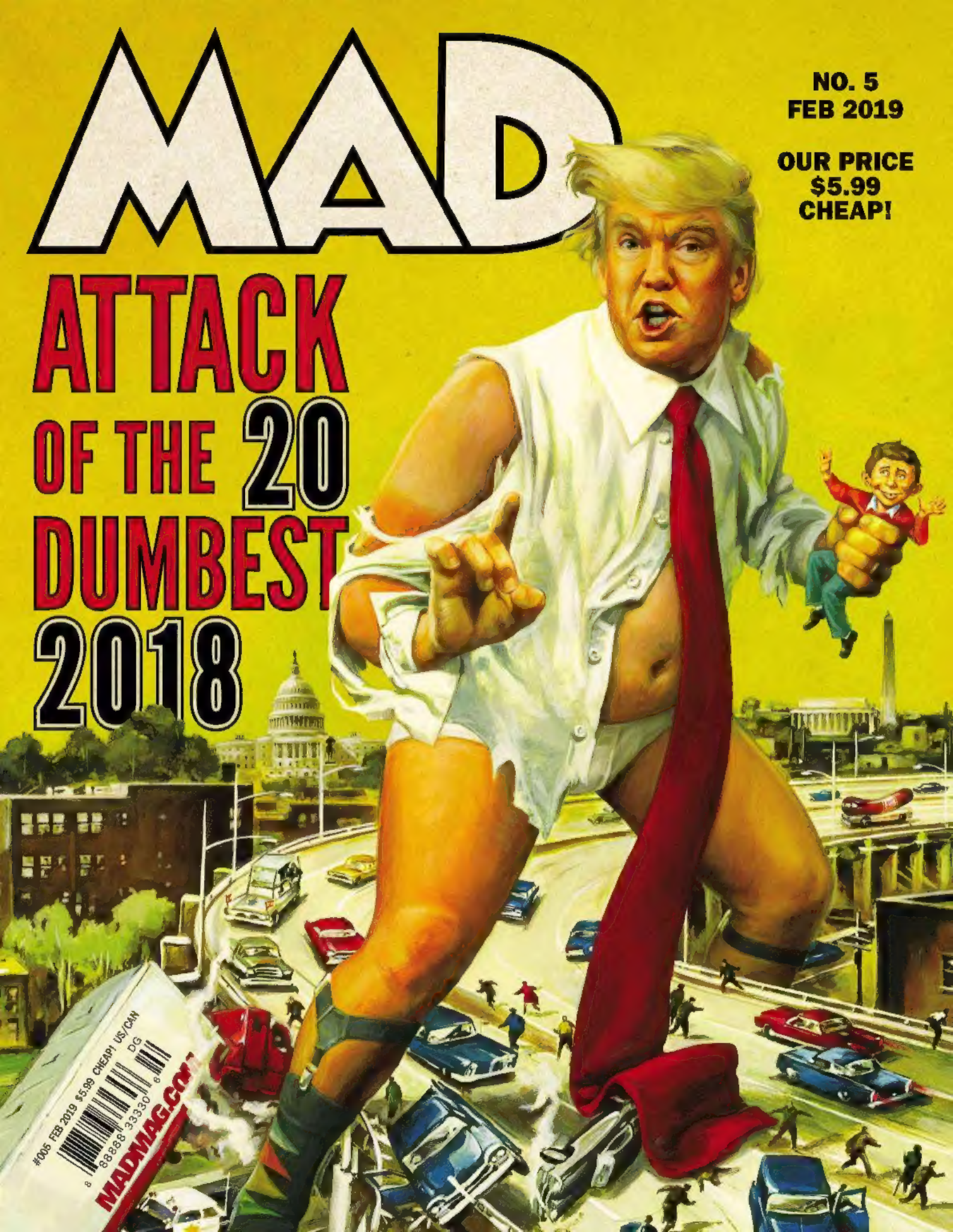


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THE USUAL GANG OF IDIOTS

02
08
12

A Listless Story

A MAD Look at After Christmas

Equal Time: The NRA's Edward Gorey Parody

13

THE MAD 20 DUMBEST PEOPLE, EVENTS, & THINGS OF 2018



36
38
40
41
42
45
48
51
52
54
56

The Lighter Side of Christmas

Spy vs. Spy

The Wisenheim Museum: Glenn Barr

Potrziebie Comics

The Chancers

Lukey & Mukey

Spaghetti & Meatball

The 27 Club

Shorts & Briefs

Incoming!

The MADifesto

INSIDE BACK COVER Real, Dumb

VARIOUS PLACES Drawn Out Dramas by Sergio Aragonés

COVER ARTIST Michael Koelsch

CONTENTS



'Twas the night before Christmas, and on TBS, this damn movie kept looping, it's like they're obsessed! No *Conan* for you with this holiday stunt. No *Family Guy*, or *Samantha*, that... lady. You'll watch it at noon, at two, and at four. And come Christmas night, you will watch it some more! It's been twenty years. We give up. Yes, we quit! We'll do a damned parody. Here! This is it!

I'm your narrator, Jean Shepherd! If you were born after 1965 you probably haven't heard of me, but I used to be very big on the radio. For you youngsters, "radio" was like a podcast that didn't try to sell you a mattress.

See that kid fogging up the window of Pignee's Department Store? The one who looks like the love child of Karl Rove and Elmer Fudd? That's me, Ratfink Parka!

My lustful stare was aimed at the one thing I wanted more than anything in the world. Not a ten-year-old girl who looks like Karl Rove and Elmer Fudd. The one true object of my affection was that genuine Red Eyesore air rifle!



Last but not least, there's my little brother, Randd. He's the one squoshing his face against the store window and making green snot wreaths on the glass. He wanted a bicycle and a zeppelin, but what he should have asked Santa for is some better dialogue!

Down there, that's our house! My family was lower upper lower middle class. I was always jealous of our neighbors, who were upper upper lower middle class. If you're confused about the socioeconomic difference, it's that they had a roof!



Every morning, mom served up heaps of egg whites, oatmeal, mashed potatoes, Wonder Bread, and Cream of Wheat. It wasn't until college that I finally ate food that had a color!

I can't believe it, they traded Wiltfong for Shottenhoffer! Why'd they go and do that?



LISTLESS STORY

WRITER DESMOND DEVLIN

ARTIST TOM RICHMOND

You may notice the intellectual disparity between me, your loquacious narrator and the dim-witted kid version of me. It's one of a number things that don't add up! Take my old man. He looks thirty years older than mom, easy! Woody Allen turned down directing this movie. He felt their relationship was a little unsavory.

My not-so-old-lady is the one with the anachronistic 80's perm. While we kids were entranced by the mechanical elves and trains and drummer boys, Mom was wistfully dreaming about owning a very different gadget of mechanized joy that starts with a V!

That's right, an electric vacuum cleaner!



But I don't mean to downplay the warmth and nostalgia that made this film a family classic! Of course, those families don't know that all the stories in this movie were originally published in *Playboy*, and the director is the guy who did *Porky's*!



Because "They traded Davis for Miller" isn't funny!



I enter a different newspaper contest every day. One day, I'll be a winner and we'll be rich! I'll still say I should have won that baseball essay contest. I had a great topic: "Lou Gehrig, what a quitter."



Ratfink, you have to finish your Christmas list for Santa. But you're not getting that air rifle. You'll shoot your eye out!

If you're so worried about my eyes, why do you make me wear these gigantic magnifying eyeglasses? On cloudless days, the sun fries my corneas like ants!

No rifle? Rats! Moms know nothing about creeping crooks, lurking lowlifes, or ducking desperadoes. The worst varmints of them all were **Black Bert** and his evil gang of prairie rustlers, who for some reason dressed like **French mimes**.

Yeee-haw! Despite our **Hamburglar** costumes, we're from the **old west**!

Take that, **Black Bert**! I'm an **American hero**, devoted to protecting the womenfolk from harm, abiding by our **Native American** treaties, preserving the buffalo, and having respect for nature!

Well, that's an insane fantasy! We'll just have to put up with **Ratfink's** hallucinations for now. **Ritalin** won't be invented until **1944**!



The **Bump-Ass hounds**! Get off me, you marble-plucking, cork-sinking, ant souls!

Ratfink! Get back here and take your brother with you to school!

But, Mom, I'm still in the house!



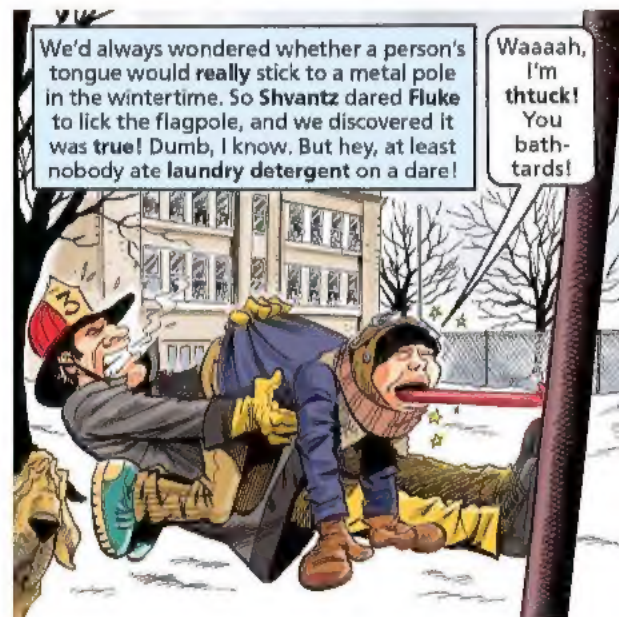
Oh, children! Give me those **24 sets** of deformed fake teeth!

It's only **17 sets** of fake teeth, Teacher. Our town won't get **fluoridated water** until **1956**!



We'd always wondered whether a person's tongue would really stick to a metal pole in the wintertime. So **Shvantz** dared **Fluke** to lick the flagpole, and we discovered it was true! Dumb, I know. But hey, at least nobody ate laundry detergent on a dare!

Waaaaah, I'm thtuck! You bath-tards!



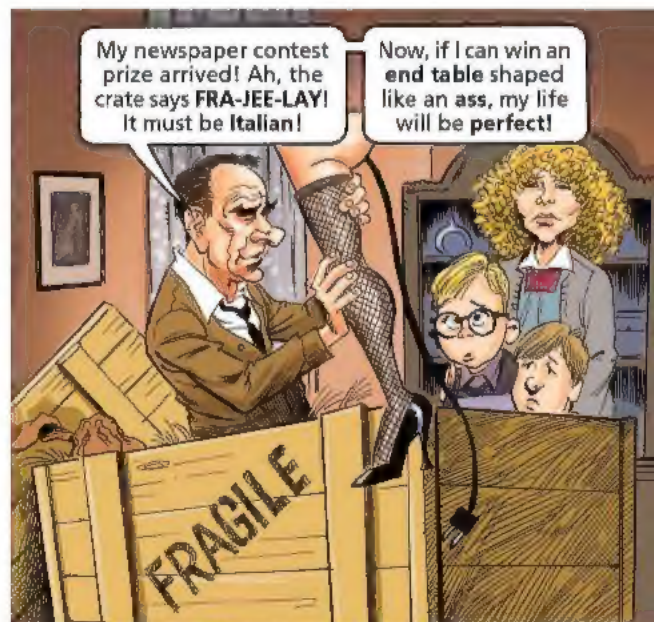
Snot Carcass! The meanest, rottenest bully in town. Every day after school, he'd trap us in the alley and do his worst. Why did he do this? Why didn't I stand up for myself? And mostly, why did I keep taking the same stupid route home from school every day?

Okay, what I'm doing now is working the **obliques**. Tomorrow, we'll move on to some lower body stretches!



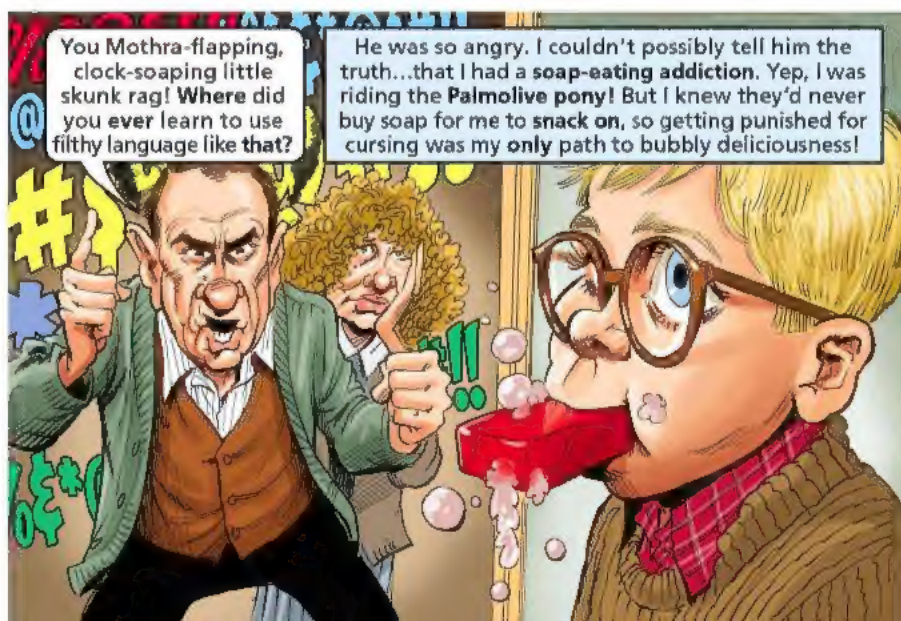
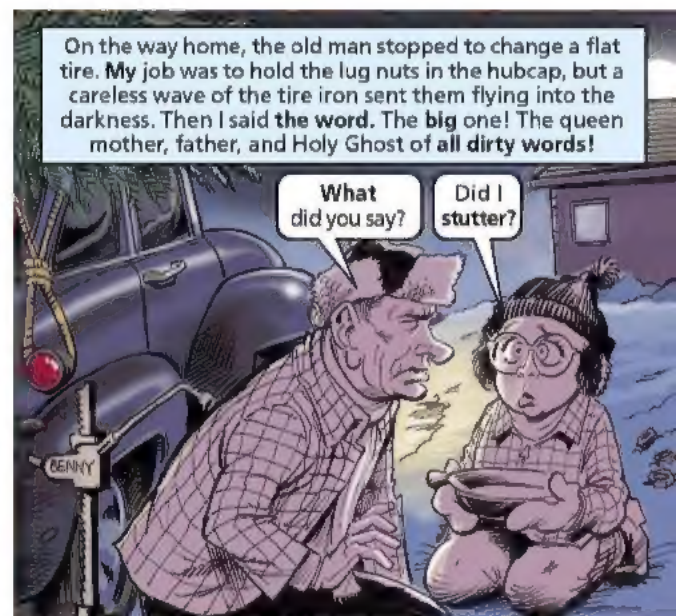
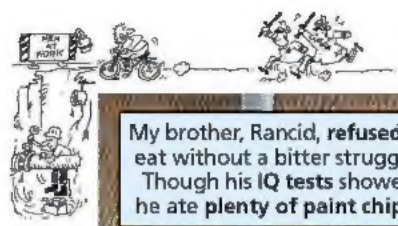
My newspaper contest prize arrived! Ah, the crate says **FRA-JEE-LAY**! It must be **Italian**!

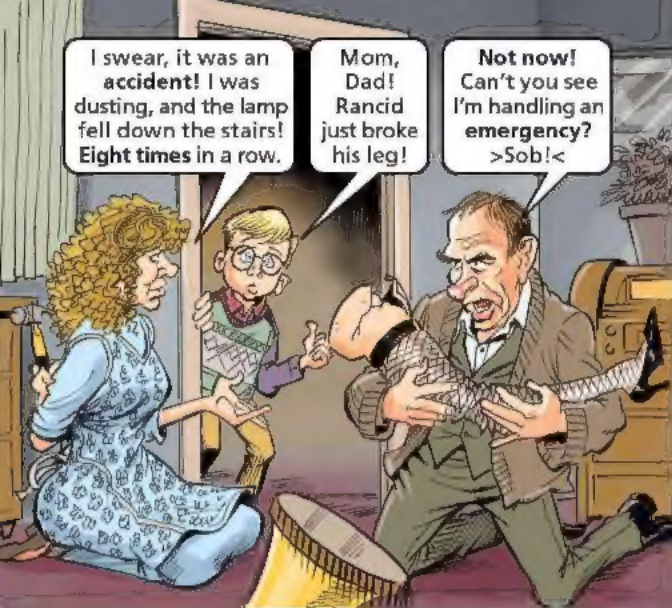
Now, if I can win an **end table** shaped like an ass, my life will be perfect!



GESUNDHEIT?

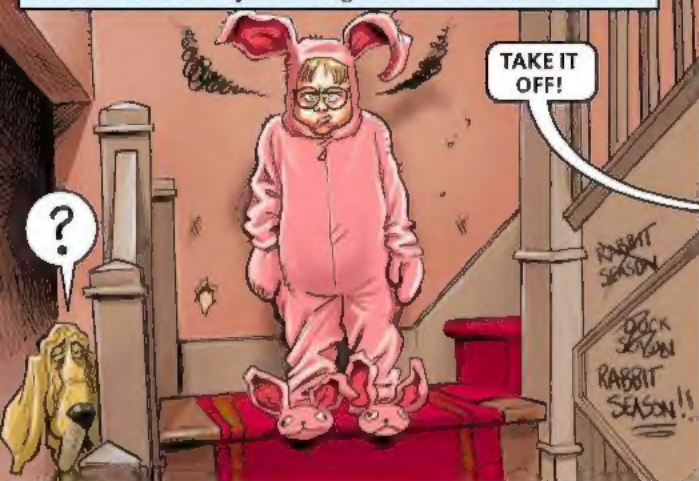






"I have a face that only a mother could love, which is why I'm dating your mom."

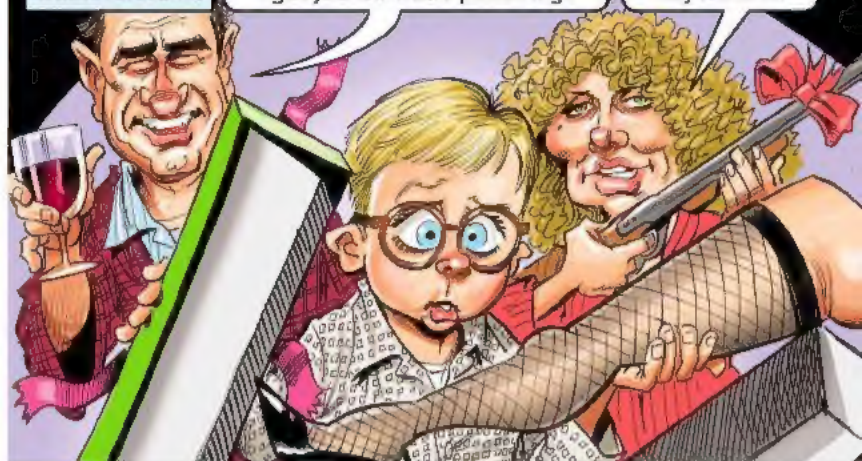
Christmas finally came. Wearing this bunny suit from Aunt Sara was the most humiliating moment of my life! I later learned that this scene has been paused more times by pedophile furies than any in movie history! It's their *Fatal Attraction!* Which made it doubly disturbing when the old man shouted...



Finally! As soon as I laid eyes on that beautiful, long, narrow, box, I just knew what was inside!

Son, I know you're old enough for this. And you're going to spend a lot of time holding it, and polishing it, and loving it like any red-blooded American boy should! That's right... I got you the other plastic leg!

And because I'm very, very, very concerned about your father, I got you the gun. You may need it!



Oh, no! You shot your eye out!

Wahhhh! No, Mom! What really happened was this! There was this big icicle...and it fell off the garage...and it caused a 6.4 earthquake that knocked me down and broke my glasses... and the ground opened up...and subterranean lizards emerged from the earth's core...

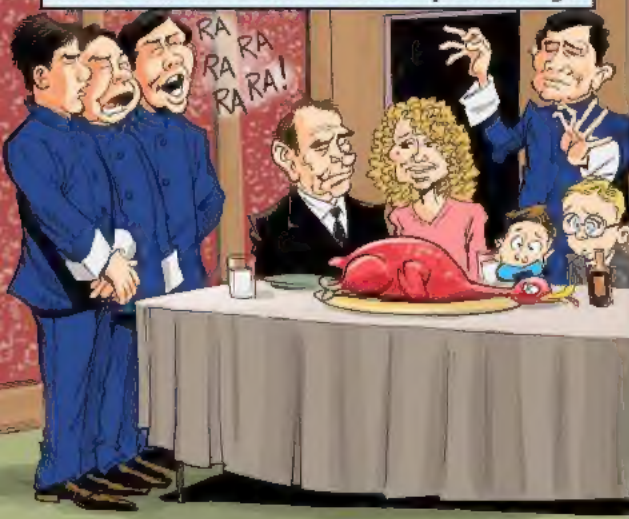


...And they were wearing zoot suits! And that's when Eleanor Roosevelt showed up! And from her swimsuit she took out a stick of butter and handcuffs! And she—

It's okay, Ratfink! Your bogus alibi makes more sense than why a hottie like me would be married to a moldy potato like your father!



That Christmas would live in our memories as the time we were introduced to gingerbread fried rice, eggnog fu young, and racially stereotyped singing Chinese waiters that would make Jerry Lewis cringe!

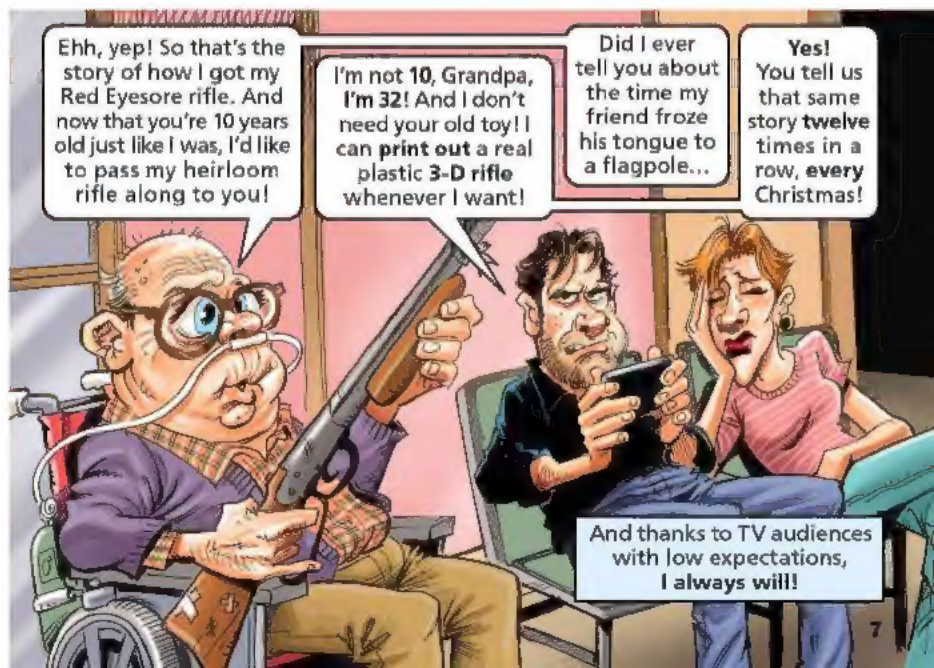


Ehh, yep! So that's the story of how I got my Red Eyesore rifle. And now that you're 10 years old just like I was, I'd like to pass my heirloom rifle along to you!

I'm not 10, Grandpa, I'm 32! And I don't need your old toy! I can print out a real plastic 3-D rifle whenever I want!

Did I ever tell you about the time my friend froze his tongue to a flagpole...

Yes! You tell us that same story twelve times in a row, every Christmas!

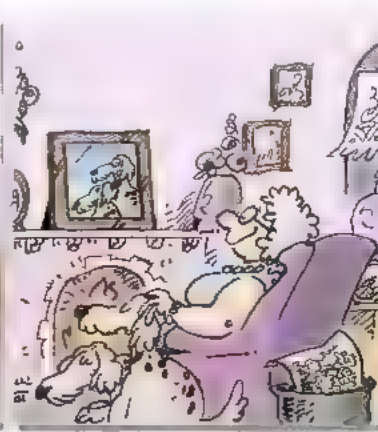


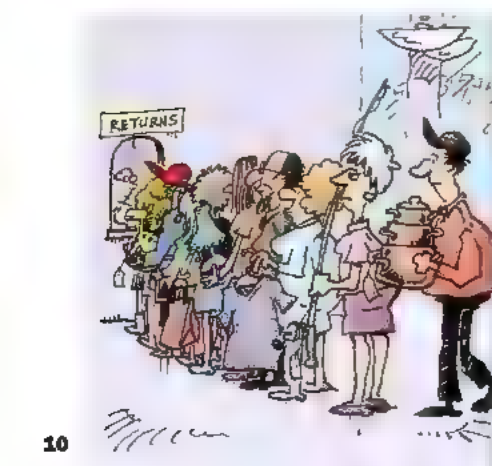
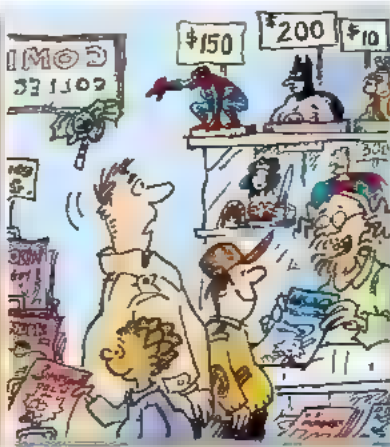
And thanks to TV audiences with low expectations, I always will!

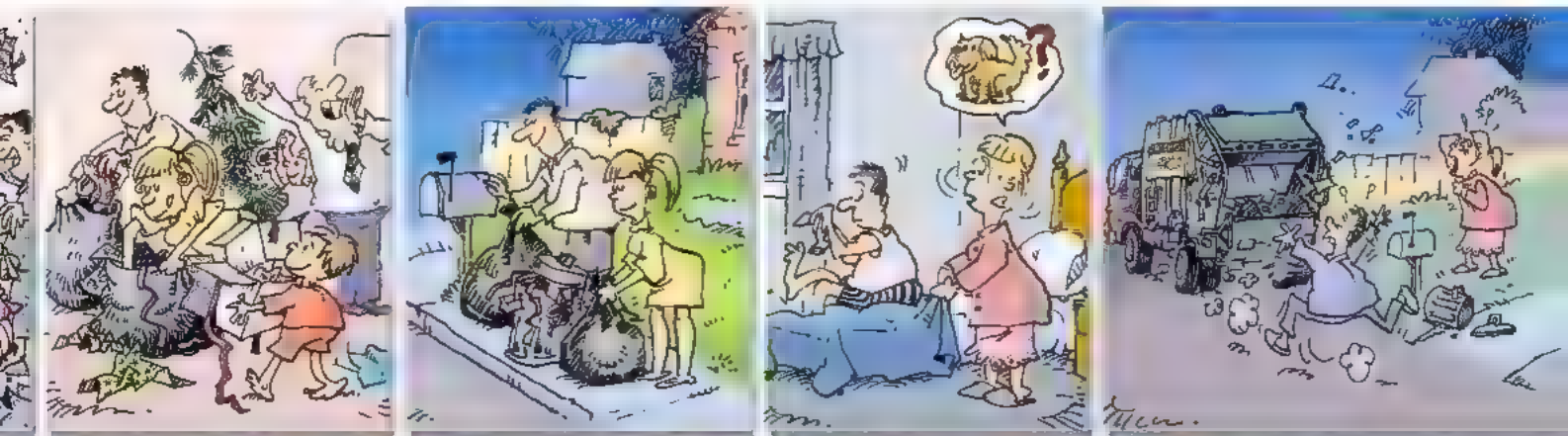
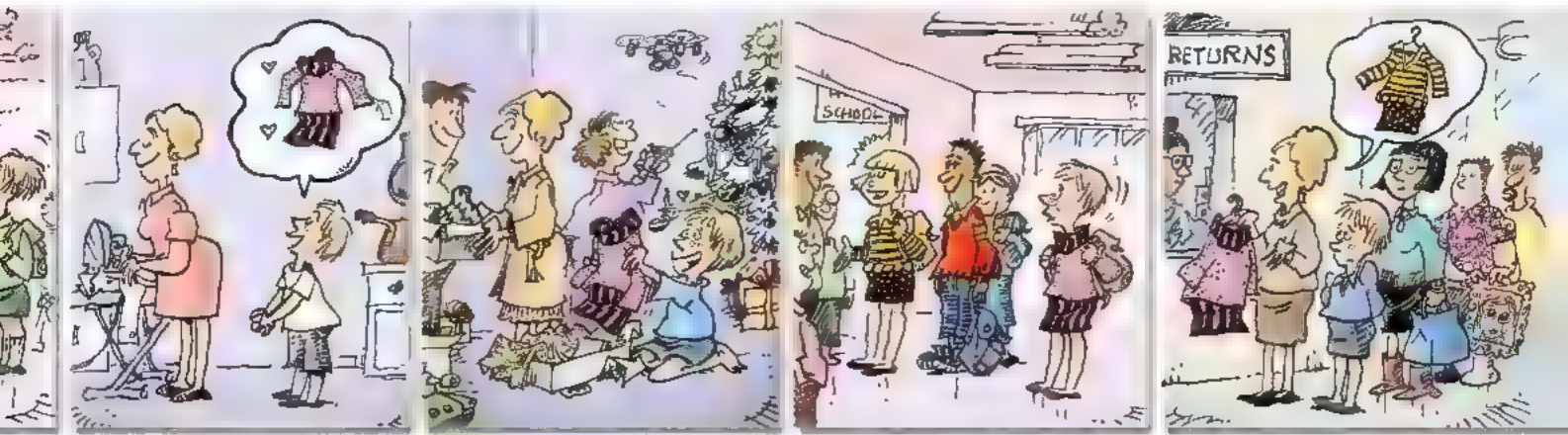
Sergio Aragonés
PRESENTS

A MAD LOOK AT









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THE MAD 20 DUMBEST PEOPLE, EVENTS, & THINGS OF 2018



1 HOLLYWOOD HARASSERS TALES FROM THE CREEPS

Something wretched this way comes! The year started with an onslaught of scary stories about slimy Weiny—a.k.a. mogul Harvey Weinstein—heaving himself onto a variety of female victims. The grotesque, grunting gargoyle dangled his naughty parts and acting parts in front of them while threatening their livelihoods. As if that weren't chilling enough, more sexual predators then crept out of every corner of entertainment: Kevin Spacey, Louis CK, Charlie Rose, Matt Lauer, Roger Ailes...too many to escape! They almost warrant a horror magazine of their own.



#69

THIS MONTH'S
MOVIE REVIEW:

#METOO

VS.

PREDATOR

GROPE

THAT
TROPE!

THE FILMS OF
KEVIN SPACEY

SKEEVE TV
FALL PREVIEW

LES MOONVES
BILL O'REILLY
MATT LAUER
CHARLIE ROSE
ROGER AILES

THANKS
BUT NO
WANKS!

LOUIS CK'S
COMEDY TOUR

INFAMOUS

MONSTERS

OF HOLLYWOOD



BILL COSBY
DR. HUXTABLE'S HUGS & DRUGS



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GET MORE SCHMUCKS
FOR YOUR BUCKS!
12 DISGUSTING ISSUES
FOR ONLY \$12

SEND NO MONEY... Mail Coupon Today!

YES! I want Hollywood's most REPULSIVE SLEAZEBAGS delivered right to my door!

Name: _____

Address: _____

Sex Offender Registry Number: _____

Please send in a plain brown wrapper because I still live with my:

☐ MOM

☐ EX-WIFE

☐ CELLMATE

2

WHITE HOUSE CORRUPTION DREDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

An EPA chief who denies climate change? Check! A frack-happy Secretary of the interior who loves big-game trophy hunting? Check and check! A gaggle of inner-circle bozos burning jet fuel for personal jaunts? We hear Moscow is beautiful this time of year! And yet none of them can hold a candle to the king: Donald Trump has reportedly spent nearly \$80 million of U.S. taxpayer money on golf trips since taking office. Which has us thinking...

SO LONG
DC
WASHINGTON

HEY, WHAT HAPPENED TO THAT DRAIN THE

\$80
MILLION

NO. 45
DEC
37188

APPROVED
BY THE
COMICS
CODE
AUTHORITY

SWAMP THING?



FEATURING

THE GREATEST SWAMP CREATURES OF ALL TIME:
EPA ADMINISTRATOR SCOTT PRUITT, SECRETARY OF COMMERCE WILBUR ROSS, SECRETARY
OF THE INTERIOR RYAN ZINKE, AND SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY STEVEN MNUCHINI

WRITER TAMMY GOLDEN ARTIST PAUL WEE

3 DETENTION CENTERS PUT CHILDREN IN CAGES

MISERY FOR ALL AGES

President Trump's "zero tolerance" immigration policy promised to prosecute all who illegally entered the United States, including asylum-seekers. By June, thousands of kids had been separated from their parents along the U.S.-Mexico border, with children being held in cages described as "freezing cold," "without access to adequate bathroom facilities," and "thoroughly inhumane." Trump would eventually reverse the policy—but with seemingly no plan in place to reunite families, many kids are still on their own (and may never be reunited)! We can only imagine how some heartless businessman could profit from this obscene attack on human rights with a new board game the whole/separated family can enjoy...

ice trap

it's fun to build
this terrible wonder,
but woe to the kids
who get caught under!

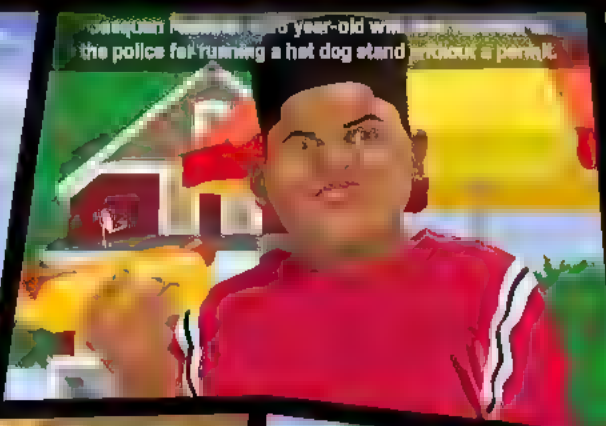


4 GUILTY OF BEING BLACK CLOSED-WORLD GAMEPLAY

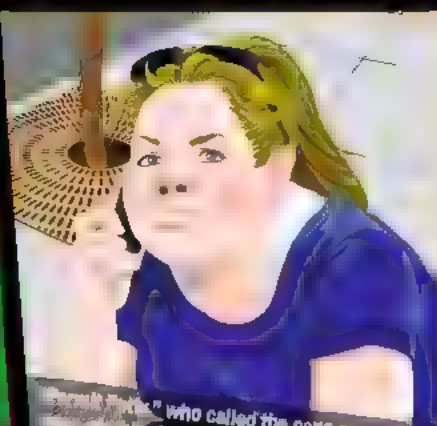
Back in April, police in Philadelphia were called because two black men were sitting in a Starbucks. In May, police in Oakland were called because a black family was enjoying a barbecue in a public park. In July, police in Massachusetts were called because a black college student was eating lunch in a dining hall. The common denominator in all these stories? You guessed it: racist white people! What is it about black people existing that's got these morons so eager to call 9-1-1? They say that art imitates life, so here's a video game we might soon see ..



Featuring "BBQ Becky," who called the cops on a black family having a barbecue.



Sebastian Rodriguez, a 19-year-old who called the police for running a hot dog stand without a permit.



"Barack Baker," who called the cops on an eight-year-old black girl for selling lemonade.



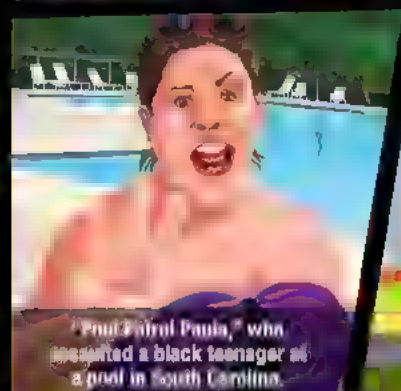
Rashon Nelson, one of two men arrested while waiting for a business meeting in a Starbucks.



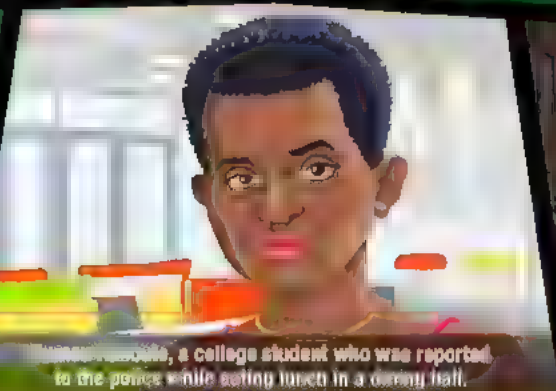
Grand Theft Nada



"Golf Cart Gail," who tattled on a black father watching his son's soccer game.



"Paul Patrol Paula," who harassed a black teenager at a pool in South Carolina.

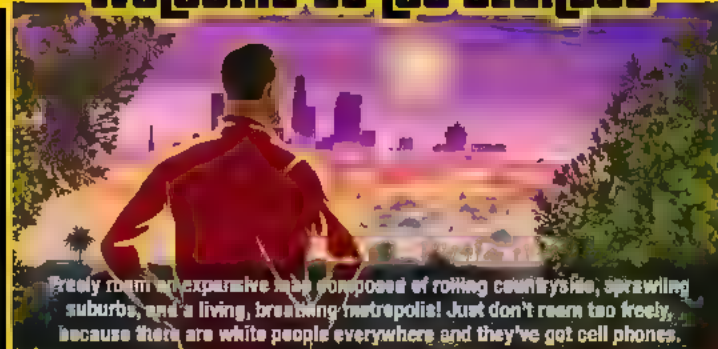


James Brooks, a college student who was reported to the police while eating lunch in a dining hall.



"Cornerstore Caroling," who called police when a black man stole a backpack gently brushed against her.

Welcome to Los Blancos



Freely roam an expansive map composed of rolling countryside, sprawling suburbs, and a living, breathing metropolis! Just don't roam too freely, because there are white people everywhere and they've got cell phones.

DYNAMIC WEATHER

Experience realistic, ever-changing weather effects including fog, rain, and snow! But don't try to escape it by ducking into a Starbucks, or the police will be called.

OVER 450 UNIQUE VEHICLES

Drive hundreds of beautifully rendered cars and trucks, each with its own unique weight and handling! Just make sure that not one single white person sees you driving it, or you will immediately be placed under arrest.

DESTRUCTIBLE ENVIRONMENTS

With the all-new FlatWhite Engine, you can dynamically destroy vehicles, buildings, and thousands of other structures throughout the city! Or just enter a Starbucks restroom. It doesn't really matter—either way, you will be arrested.

5 MICHELLE WOLF HOSTS CORRESPONDENTS' DINNER SNOWFLAKES ROASTING ON AN OPEN FIRE

If you smell burning, it's because comedian Michelle Wolf roasted the GOP at this year's White House Correspondents' Dinner. You would think the party with an elephant mascot would have thicker skin, but they got redder in the face than Sarah Huckabee Sanders' perfected bold lip. SNL alum and obscure-reference raconteur Dennis Miller came to their rescue by promising to retaliate with brutally mean jokes about the scariest 'wolf' since Virginia in three days flat. Not the most impressive turnaround, but since when is timing important to comedy? Sadly, Miller's burns never materialized, leaving the poor GOP waiting like Vladimir and Estragon for Godot, babe!

Michelle
WOLF

Dennis
MILLER



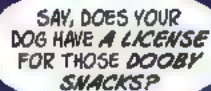
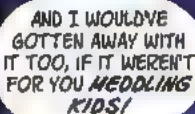
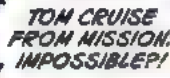
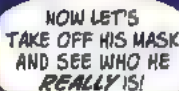
Ha-ha vs. Cha-Cha!

Who's Afraid to
Write Jokes About
**MICHELLE
WOLF?**

She Made Fools of the GOP!
They Were Outraged!
But He'll Get Her Back...
IN THREE DAYS!

Marco "Robot" Rubio thought it would be a good idea to debate gun laws with the Parkland shooting survivors. Needless to say, the children dunked on him so hard, LeBron is getting nervous about his spot on the Lakers. The Parkland gang got Rubio so good, we couldn't help but see similarities between them and another crew of justice-seeking teens. Hop in the Mystery Machine, it's time for...

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**RUT
ROH!**

7 A NUCLEAR SCREW-UP HAWAII FIVE OH NO!

Hawaii is filled with great spots to relax...and one TERRIBLE place to relax. It's the Emergency Alert System headquarters, where one incompetent employee mistook a drill for the real thing. The Diamond-Headed do! sent everyone in the state a false alert saying they were about to be nuked by an incoming ballistic missile. More than a million Hawaiians heard the warning and immediately made "tiny bubbles" in their shorts! People wept and panicked and truly believed they were about to die, until the correction was issued—over a half hour later. Oops! Like they say, "aloha" means "goodbye"!

KISS YOUR ASS ALOHA!

"The error...the error..."

Apocalypse? Naw

"I love the smell of facepalm in the morning."



WARNER BROS. PRESENTS
A FILM BY MARK FRODOLOFF

8

FLOTUS VISITS CAPTURED KIDS ON THE BORDER

DISPASSION FAUX PAS

First Lady Melania Trump has done her share of dumb things this year, from launching her "Be Best" campaign with information and graphics plagiarized from an Obama-era pamphlet, to getting busted by her hubby for watching "fake news" on CNN at 45,000 feet on Air Force One. But the gaffe that garnered the most attention occurred as she left Washington for McAllen, Texas, to visit a shelter for immigrant children U.S. Border Patrol had separated from their parents. The First Lady sported a jacket with the message "I REALLY DON'T CARE, DO U?" printed in large letters on the back. Was this commentary on her feelings for the plight of traumatized kids, or a thoughtless fashion choice? Either way, this story of biblically dumb proportions reminds us of another notorious coat that got its wearer into trouble...

**"Vastly more clueless than
Off-Broadway's *Clueless: The Musical*"**

—New Yecch Times



MELANIA
AND THE
AMAZING
TONE-DEAF
GREEN COAT

NEDAMIRROR THEATER

1600 Pennsylvania Ave., Washington, D.C.

WRITER: ARTIST W. WILCOX DECKERT

9

ROSEANNE SHIFTS BLAME FOR RACIST RANT BETTER LYING THROUGH CHEMISTRY

Roseanne Barr writes a racist tweet, loses her show, and blames it on Ambien. Come on, who blames outrageous behavior on a sleeping pill? Ridiculous...that's no excuse! But there is a new, even more culpable prescription drug!

WRITER
DICK DEBARTOLO
ARTIST
SCOTT ANDERSON

Introducing

the New Medical
Breakthrough Pill:

Blame-ium

You take the drug,
it takes the blame!

Just two
tablets will
loosen your
tongue!*

*And probably your bowels, so
make sure to have your small-minded
meltdown near a restroom.

GUARANTEED TO WORK!

If the public doesn't agree that your tone-deaf and insensitive words are the fault of Blame-ium, you get your money back (but not your reputation or TV show)!

LOSE WEIGHT, TOO!

Although Blame-ium is not a diet drug, many users do lose weight! A Blame-ium-induced rant often results in a punch in the mouth. Then eating must be done through a straw, and the pounds just melt away!



BLAME-IUM IS NOT FOR EVERYONE

While we'll sell it to everyone, it's probably not great for toddlers.

TALK TO YOUR DOCTOR

Better yet, talk to our doctor. Or, for complete peace of mind, don't talk to any doctor. Or, why not go to our website www.blame-ium.com and print your own doctor diploma? Then take as much Blame-ium as you damn well please!



FORMER TV STAR ROSEANNE SAYS:

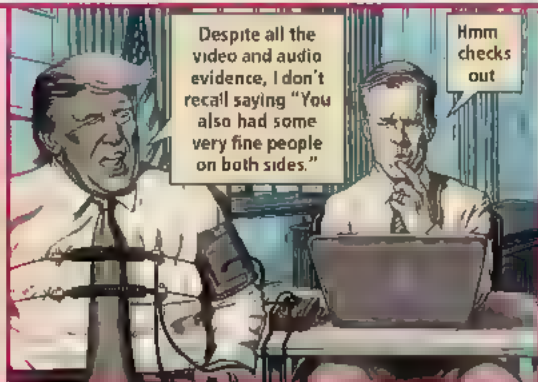
"I make one lousy 'racist' tweet and suddenly my show is ~~canceled~~. my co-stars ~~hate~~ me, and my career is ~~over~~! And to top it off, I just found out there's a new drug I ~~could have blamed it on~~! Where the eff you see kay was **Blame-ium** a few months ago when I ~~needed it~~?"



Your brain is made up of different types of cells, like smart mouth cells and moronic mouth cells. When you're inclined to say something stupid, the smart cells get knotted up with the moronic ones, leaving you tongue-tied and preventing jerk-wad comments. Blame-ium loosens those knots and sets your tongue free to say any foul thing that comes into your head! You're a new person! Often a person without a job, family, or friends...but still a new person! But now you have something to blame your idiocy on: Blame-ium!

COMING SOON ERASE-IUM!

Makes your mind a total blank so you won't remember anything you said or did. Erase-ium strips away another layer of personal accountability, allowing you to deny with confidence, even while hooked up to a lie detector!



SIDE EFFECTS: Too numerous to fit in this ad, but basically everything short of death.
(Though don't rule out death. And if you do pass away, don't blame us; we're all on Blame-ium, too!)

10

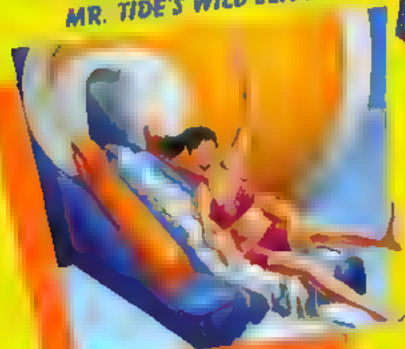
PODDY-MOUTHED KIDS WASHING THEIR INSIDES OUT WITH SOAP

When reports surfaced that small children were ingesting colorful laundry detergent "pods" because they looked like whirly-swirly candies, teens then did the logical thing...and challenged one another to eat the poison on purpose. What jokingly originated as an online meme became a life-threatening game deemed the "Tide Pod Challenge," resulting in vomiting, lethargy, and breathing problems. Scores of youths took to the Internet to boast that, on a dare, they consumed the toxic chemicals, drawing the attention of everyone from Senator Chuck Schumer to Good Morning America. And while no one has profited from the potentially deadly craze, we figure it's only a matter of time before we see a show like...

SICKELODEON

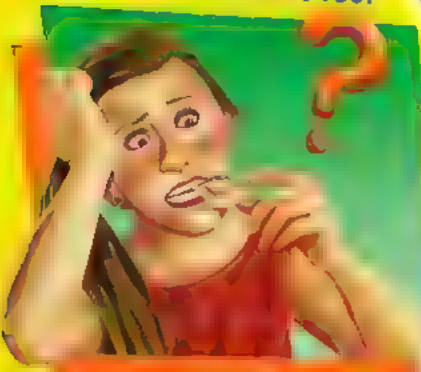
RIDE TIDE POD CHALLENGE

HAVE FUN GOING DOWN
MR. TIDE'S WILD SLIDE™!



CAN YOU FIND THE NUMBER FOR POISON
CONTROL HIDDEN IN THE DEPTHS OF THE
TURN-BLUE LAGOON™?

FLAVOR CHALLENGE:
WHAT DOES OUR SECRET
POD TASTE LIKE TO YOU?



(HINT: WE WILL NOT ACCEPT
"BLECH," "OOOH GOD," OR
"CALL 911" AS ANSWERS!)

THE FIRST
PLACE FOR
FREAKY TEENS WHO
EAT FUNNY POISON!
EXPERIENCE THE
EXCITING AND VERY
QUESTIONABLE GAME
OF THRILLS, SPILLS,
AND SPEWING!

WATCH OUT FOR BOOBY TRAPS!



OR YOU'LL GET A FACE FULL
OF LETHAL LATHER™!

UH-OH! DON'T TASTE
ALL THE COLORS TOO SOON!



OR YOU'LL BE DISQUALIFIED FOR
A "GROW-UP THROW-UP"!

AGES
13+

Kids 6 and under apply for
Sickelodeons Small Objects
Choking Hazard Challenge!

HOW MANY YUMMY BALLS OF LAUNDRY
SOAP CAN YOU CATCH IN YOUR MOUTH
VIA THE SICKELODEON POD-A-PULT™?
GOTTA EAT 'EM ALL!

11 TRUMP PANDERS TO PUTIN AT HELSINKI MEETING

THE SUMMIT OF ALL FEARS

When Donald Trump and Vladimir Putin met behind closed doors in Helsinki, it seemed a little fishy. When Trump later stood with Putin at a press conference and said, "I don't see any reason why it would be" Russia who meddled in the 2016 election, it seemed even fishier! Trump's toadying response to Putin's claims of innocence was condemned by lawmakers, and the president was forced to walk back his comments, claiming he meant to say he didn't "see any reason why it wouldn't be Russia." We celebrate one of our country's finest un-presidential moments with this timeless keepsake.

The Badford Exchange Presents

The Helsinki Summit 2018

COMMEMORATIVE
PLATE

Commemorate the landmark dog and pony show between America's leader, Vladimir Putin, and his lapdog, Donald Trump, with this extremely strong and powerful hand-numbered treasure!

A collage of skillfully rendered images depicts the easy Top-Bottom rapport between two super-narcissists on the day our Commander In Chief flushed his intelligence community down the toilet!

This limited edition fine porcelain plate features:

- An intricate border of inlaid hammer and sickle symbols.
- An easel with one leg shorter than the other to display your plate on unequal footing for the entire world to see!
- A limited edition of only 1,500 plates. (But some are saying 150,000, making it the biggest commemorative plate in American history. Much bigger than Obama's plate.)

Make Your Curio Cabinet Great Again by Ordering Today!



The Badford Exchange
9345 Underbuss Blvd
Backpeddle, MD 60642

Order Form for "The Helsinki Summit 2018," a
Limited Edition Collector Plate. Hand-Numbered
and Bordered in 24 Karat "Golden Shower" Gilt.

Please enter my order for "Disgraceful Performance." I understand I need
send no money now, but that I will be paying, along with the rest of the
country, for many decades to come.

Signature _____

Name (Please print) _____

Address _____

City or Bunker/State _____

Telephone (_____) _____

Zip _____

WRITER TERESA BURNS PARKHURST ARTIST PAUL SHIPPER

12 THAI CAVE SAVE A SUB-PAR STRATEGY

When a team of 12 boys got trapped in a Thai cave all of the adults involved acted like they were tripping out of their minds—and tripping over themselves to be heroes. There was the team's clueless coach, who led the boys into the cave in the first place, and the rescue organizers, who seemed loath to accept help from others. But perhaps the king of "screw reality" was Elon Musk—of out-of-this-world rocket ship and roadster fame—who created a kid-sized submarine for the mission. When rescuers deemed his big toy ill-fitting, he just left it by the cave. Such head-in-the-clouds (or head-under-water) impracticality inspired this take on a famous trippy ditty.

The Useless Submarine

(Sung to the tune of "Yellow Submarine" by The Beatles)

WRITER & ARTIST R. WILCOX DECKERT
COLORIST NATHAN KANE

*In the town where Prada's worn
Lived an oddly named man of means
And he sold us pricey cars
Can't afford them but they're keen*

*Random tweets came from someone
Elon Musk, please save the team
Soccer kids trapped in a cave
Turn on CNN to view the scene*

*Elon gave them a useless submarine
Useless submarine, useless submarine
Ingrates called it a useless submarine
Useless submarine, useless submarine*

*Their dilemma struck a chord
Mr. Musk took on the mighty chore
And he built in a day*

*Elon's sub was a tight squeeze
Thai cave experts all agreed
We don't need your weird machine
So Elon left his submarine*

*Elon gave them a useless submarine
Useless submarine, useless submarine
He abandoned his useless submarine
Useless submarine, useless submarine*





13 PROTESTERS BURNING NIKE PRODUCTS JUST DON'T IT

Education (or lack thereof) remains a major issue in the United States. Exhibit A: elementary schools seem to spend too much time on the three R's, and not nearly enough time on "don't light your clothes on fire." When Nike announced their partnership with peaceful protester/former NFL quarterback Colin Kaepernick in September, white nationalists took to their unkempt patios to incinerate their Nike apparel (which they'd already paid for). Nike's stock reached an all-time high just a week later, naturally. But not to worry, racists—your burnt offerings didn't go unnoticed here. .



IDIOTS ON FIRE

This is the story of racist men
who protest...not to protest...
but to waste a perfectly
good pair of Air Jordans.

They will sacrifice any Nike
product to achieve their goals.
Except their fitness tracker.

14

PAUL MANAFORT FLIPS FRAUDIAN SLIP

Sleazeball Russian lobbyist and former Trump campaign manager Paul Manafort would've gotten away with stealing millions and cheating the IRS, but he made one fatal mistake: he helped get Trump elected and landed on the radar of the special counsel investigation. Paulie Walnuts may not pay his taxes, but he kept EXCELLENT financial records. And after being convicted of eight counts of fraud, he flipped to the side of Robert Mueller, who squeezes this battle royale like a certain swarming purple storm in a popular video game. Maybe Manafort will ride the storm and glide away, but regardless, Mueller's power button is controlling Manafort now.

MANAFORTNITE

NOW AVAILABLE FOR DOWNLOAD

ON BURNER PHONES AND CONSOLES PURCHASED WITH LAUNDERED MONEY!

**CYPRUS ACCOUNT
BANKBOOK**

**PERJURY
TRAP**

**PRESIDENTIAL
PARDON**

PLAY FOR FREE!

(all in-app purchases will be charged to taxpayers)

TREASON



CONTENT RATED BY
ESRB

ARTIST: TREASON! DIVIN

ARTIST: DEAN MACADAM

15 DORITOS PITCHES CHIPS FOR LADIES

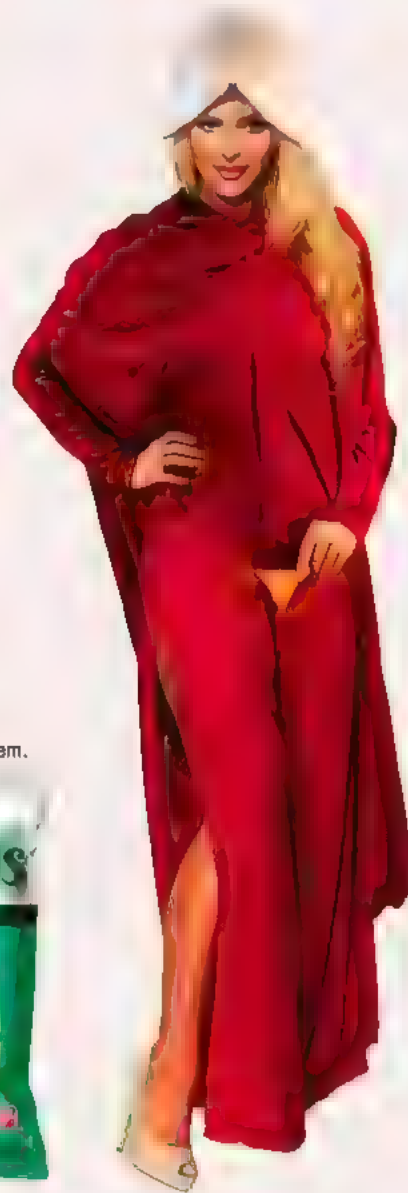
SILENCING WOMEN ONE BITE AT A TIME

Female reproductive rights may still be up for debate but at least we have *checks notes* quieter chips for women?! Hoo boy, that's about as helpful to the feminist movement as the "I Love My Curvy Wife" guy and Female Colonel Sanders! After criticism of "Lady Doritos" spread like chip dip, the company confirmed the sexist snack would never hit the shelves. This is fine for most women who consider *all* Doritos Lady Doritos, but for you gals who like the idea of keeping your freshly manicured fingers free of chip dust, we present the ad that never was.



In 1907, Miss Owen ruined her dinner party by crunching too loudly. Later that evening, she left a lasting impress on on the mayor.

Times have changed.
Now there's an
empowering chip
for ~~chicks~~ women
only.
Lady Doritos.



Taco or Sour Cream.



What are Lady Doritos?
Why, they're the quieter, cleaner,
sleeker chip designed by women,
for women (who don't want to annoy
men). Lady Doritos are designed to
be seen and not heard. And we've
put the chip dust in its place and told
it to stay there. (Sound familiar?)

Don't snack the wrong way, baby.

16

TOYS "R" US COMES BACK FROM THE DEAD

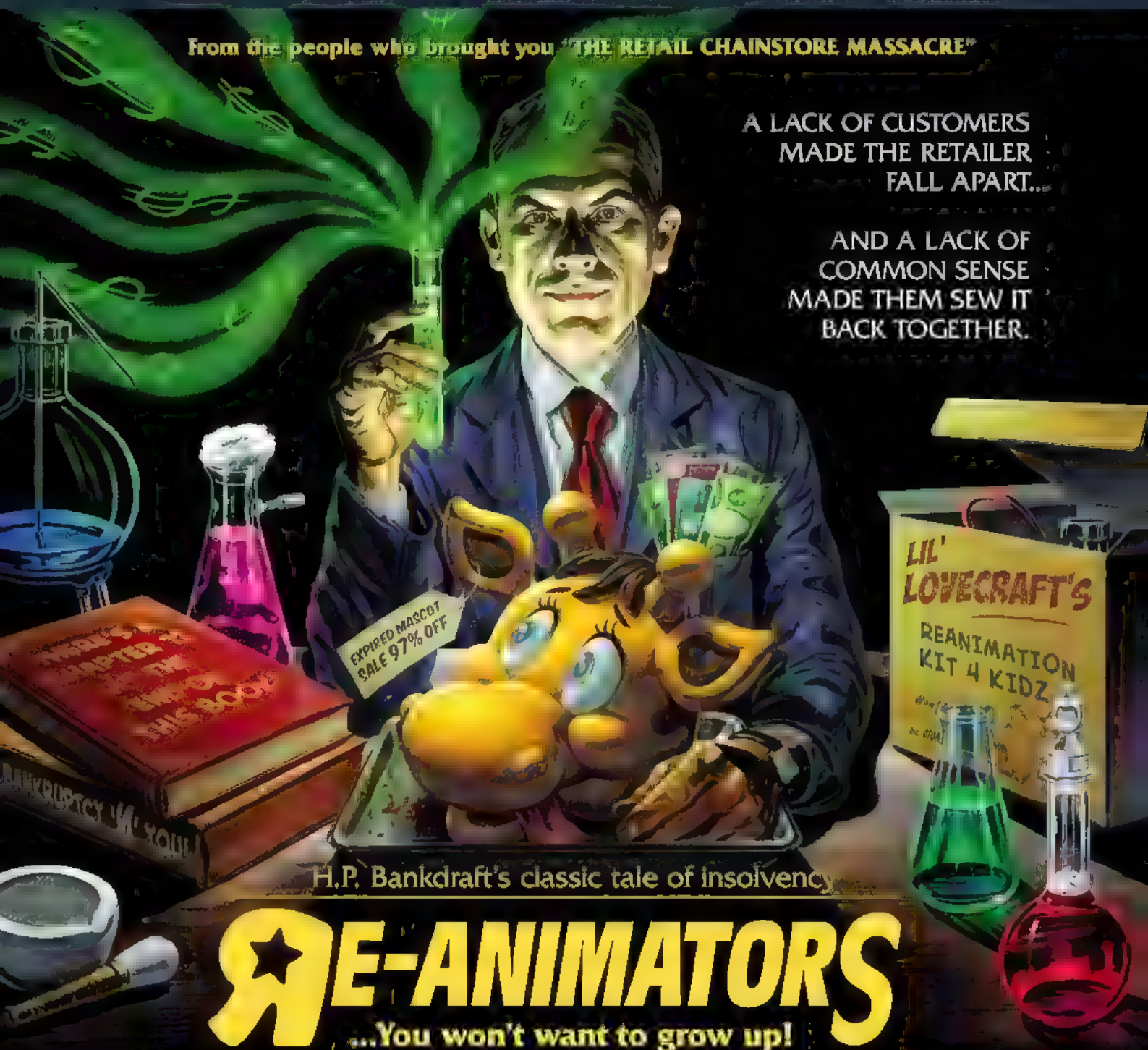
GEOFFREY'S GIRAFETERLIFE

This March, retail giant and Santa's surrogate toy shop Toys "R" Us announced that it could not cover \$5 billion in debt and would finally collapse like so many Jenga towers. However, after the corpses of their physical stores baked in the summer sun for several months, someone decided that no iconic children's brand should be allowed to STAY dead and pulled the retail giant back out of the bankruptcy auction morgue. Never mind that the stores had been getting slowly decapitated for two decades by the Internet retail market; they must SOMEHOW be worth bringing back to life, right? As long as investors don't suddenly come to their senses, we may soon find out!

From the people who brought you "THE RETAIL CHAINSTORE MASSACRE"

A LACK OF CUSTOMERS
MADE THE RETAILER
FALL APART...

AND A LACK OF
COMMON SENSE
MADE THEM SEW IT
BACK TOGETHER.



H.P. Bankdraft's classic tale of insolvency

E-ANIMATORS

...You won't want to grow up!

STRETCH ARMSGONE PRESENTS "R" E-ANIMATORS A FALLEN EMPIRE PICTURES RELEASE STARRING MAL A. BUBARBIE RUBE X. CUBE BERYL O'MONKEYS E.Z. BAKED
SCREENPLAY BY CARRIE N. SCAVENGER MUSIC BY DAWN O. DEDEBT SPECIAL EFFECTS BY MOE BANKRUPTCY PRODUCED BY WILL E. FAIL DIRECTED BY JOHN HUBRIS
BASED ON AN ASSUMPTION THAT CONSUMERS WILL COME BACK EVEN THOUGH THE STORE HAS BEEN CHAOTIC, FILTHY, AND POORLY STOCKED FOR OVER TEN YEARS

WRITER DAN TELFER

R

CONTAINS VIOLENT MASSIVE LAYOFFS
AND GRAPHIC REDUCTION OF SALES

ARTIST CHRIS WAHL

17

BRETT KAVANAUGH'S SUPREME COURT HEARINGS

INNOCENT UNTIL PROVEN RIDICULOUS

...hearings were going on right as the Senate Judiciary Committee was conducting their hearings to confirm the next Supreme Court justice, which record got out that Dr. Christine Blasey Ford had accused the maybe-not-so-Honorable Judge Brett Kavanaugh of sexually assaulting her one summer when they were both in high school, a charge he aggressively (and with spittle) denied. But luckily, Brett possessed just the doodled documents he needed to prove where he wasn't that season: his 1982 calendar! Sure enough, amid his sporting events, workouts, and movies, there is not one single entry for being wasted, planing a girl down, and grinding on her while muffling her screams! Thank golly he had this evidence, or else we could've ended up with some scattered Supreme Court justice who doesn't keep such pristine records of what he didn't do!

**NEW
for 2019!**

The Honorable Justice Brett Kavanaugh's ALIBI-A-DAY Desk Calendar!

That's right, 365 days of innocence are yours in this handy tabletop calendar, with easy to read whereabouts for every day of the year! Your future will be conviction-free with this attractive tabletop calendar that has you scheduled for week after week of non-criminal activities!

Now there's **no excuse** not to have a **good excuse**, so order yours today!



**ONLY
\$19.82**

DECEMBER 10

tried to convince
Ashley, AGAIN, that
"boof" means fart



WRITER & ARTIST TERESA GURIN PARKHURST

ALSO AVAILABLE:
**Beer-at-a-Glance
Wall
Calendar!**

OCTOBER 3

reordered fruit of the
month subscription for
Sue Collins
(thanks again!)



SEPTEMBER 20

was super impartial
for a
few hours



MAY 28

treated several
women very
appropriately

MARCH 17

tried all day to get
Bader Ginsburg to
like me



JANUARY 6

lunch with Clarence T.
at Hooters



CHECK OUT
**The Judge's
I Didn't Plan
It, DID YOU?
Daily
Planner!**

Order today and we'll include a **FREE** tote for handy carrying to and from testimony!

18

TRUMP'S SPACE FORCE ONE MISSTEP FOR MAN...

Each dawning day brings a new far-out proclamation from the leader of the free world. So it shouldn't have come as a shock when President Trump announced, via Twitter, that he'd be implementing a sixth branch of the U.S. Armed Forces: the Space Force. He reasoned that we have forces for land, air, and sea...so why not the stars? Perplexed members of the Air Force and NASA were about to explain why this wasn't necessary, but it was too late: Trump and Vice President Pence announced that the Space Force would be active by 2020. We can only imagine who might be signing up...

LOOK OUT!

They couldn't pass the physical exams for any other branches of the military.

But that's no problem.

Because they're taking all comers...



19

SARAH HUCKABEE SANDERS

THE POLITICAL

She's the daughter of a former president, and she's a conservative. She's a woman who's been in the White House, and she's a woman who's been in the White House. She's a woman who's been in the White House, and she's a woman who's been in the White House.

Imploding lives using hearsay

Immoral lady undoes history

Infuriate liberals using hogwash

Instantly legitimizes unpleasant hicks

I literally understand Hell

i'm lying up here



treason premier

MON • FRI

or when we
feel like it

SHILLTIME

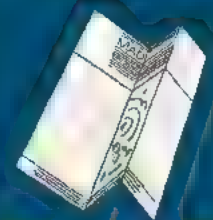
WRITER KIT LIVERY ARTIST MIKE LOEW

20

WHAT PROMINENT
RACIST FIXTURE
WAS TAKEN DOWN
THIS YEAR?

HERE WE GO WITH A SPECIAL EDITION MAD 20 FOLD-IN

In certain parts of the American South, racist Civil War objects are under attack. Recently, a bigoted icon was taken down. To find out which one, please fold page in so that "A" meets "B."



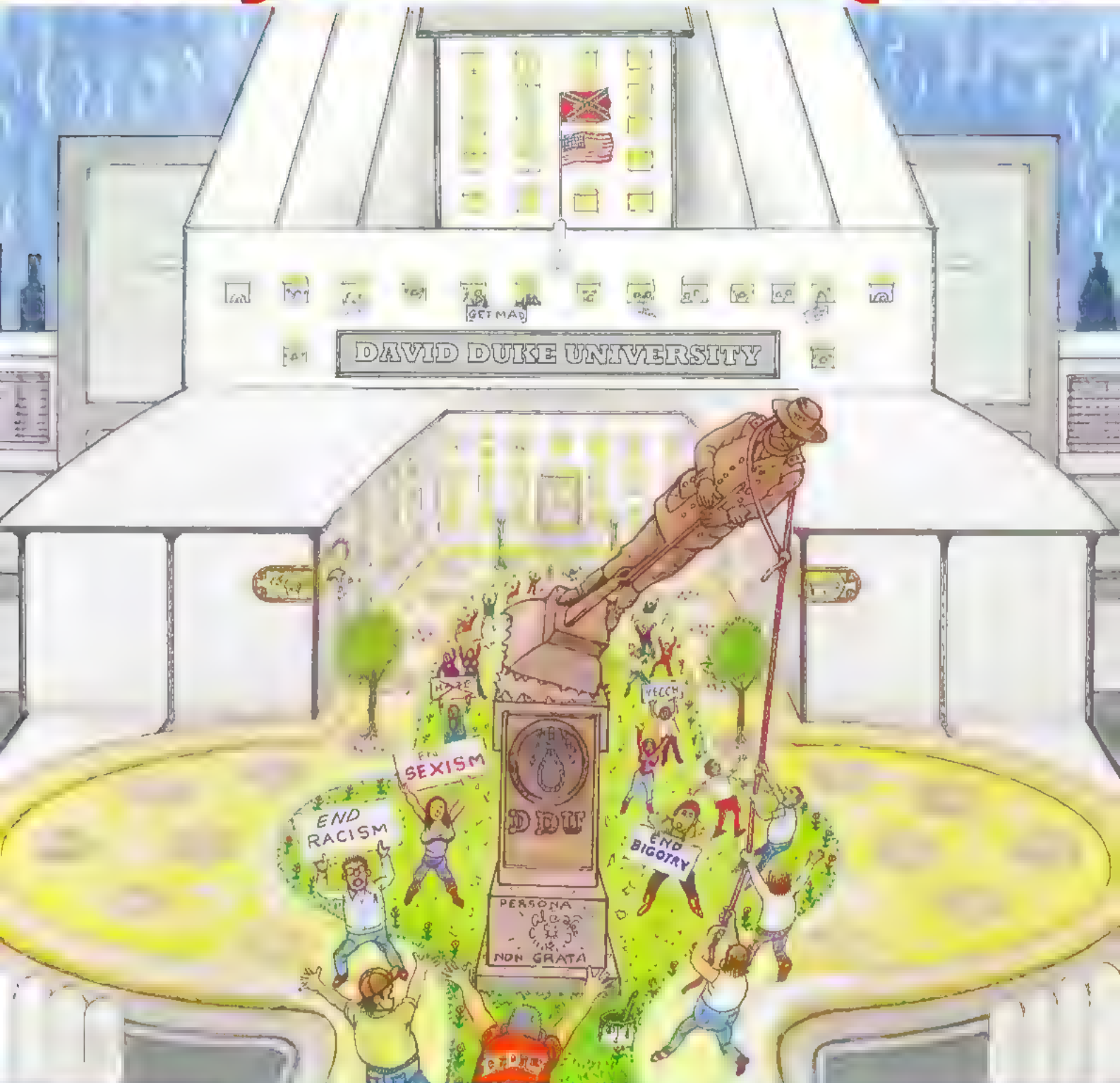
FOLD PAGE OVER LIKE THIS!

A

FOLD PAGE OVER LEFT

B

FOLD BACK SO THAT "A" MEETS "B"



PAPERS REPORT DAILY ON RACIST OBJECTS TAKING A
BEATING SOMEWHERE. EVEN FAMED PHILOSOPHER
JOHANN VON DRECK SUGGESTED THAT IT'S A "GUTEN" SIGN.



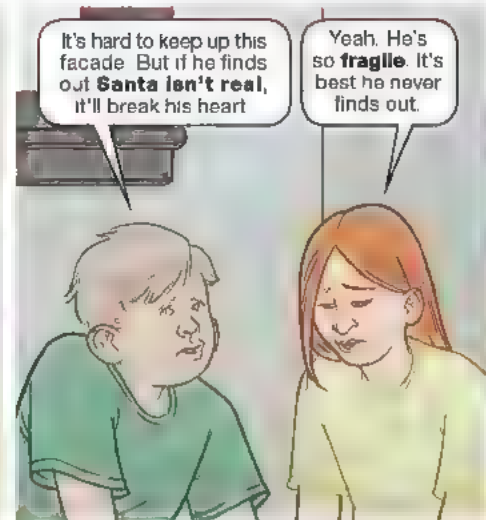
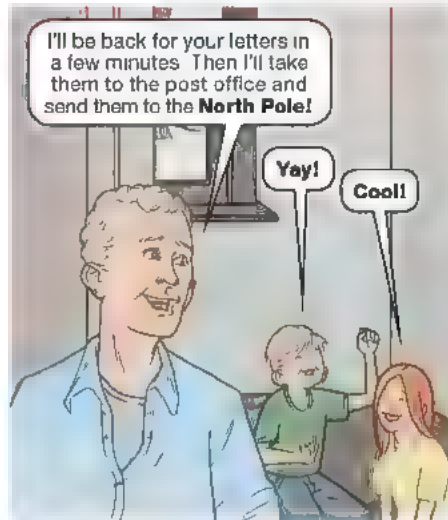
WRITER & ARTIST AL JAFFEE



THE LIGHTER SIDE OF

THE WAR

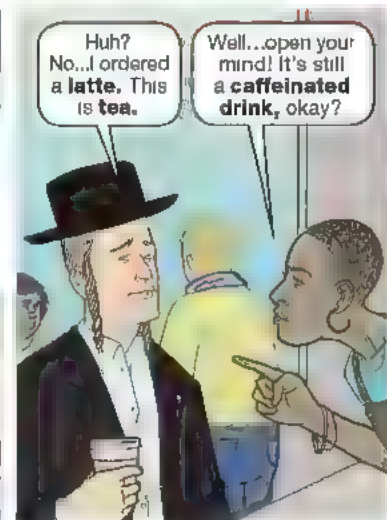
LETTERS TO...SANTA?



RETAIL SCOWLIDAY



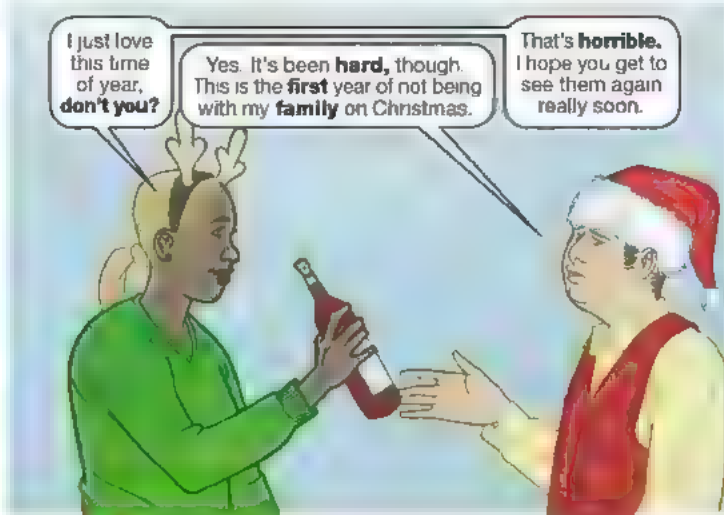
JOE-HO-HO



ON CHRISTMAS

WRITER TAMMY GOLDEN ARTIST JON ADAMS

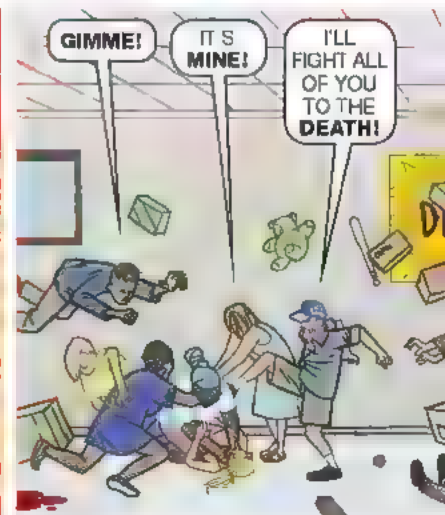
BLUE-LIGHT CHRISTMAS WITHOUT YOU

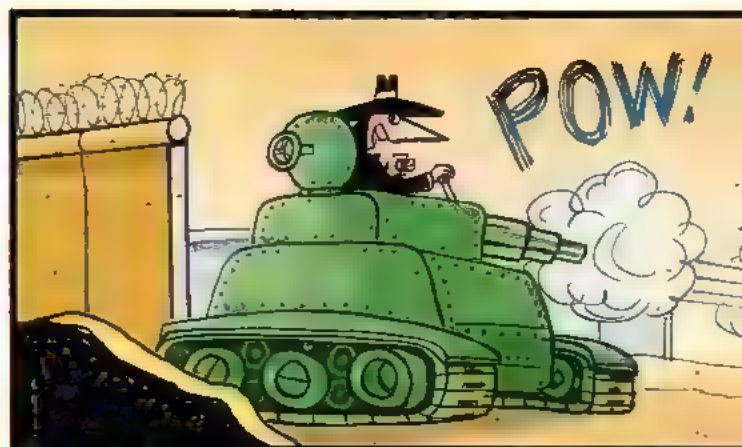


MAUL SANTA

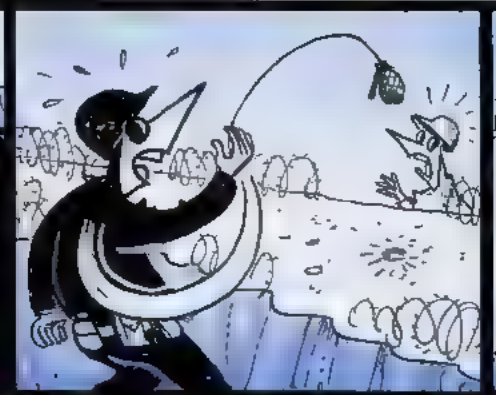


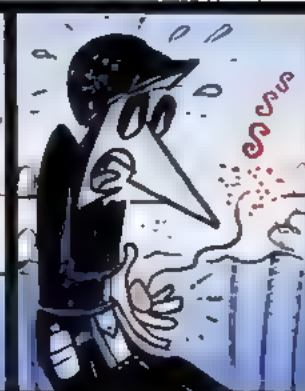
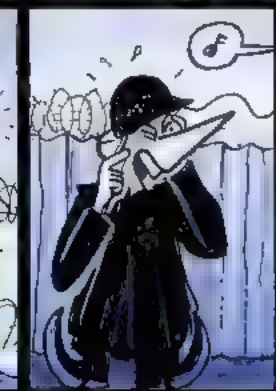
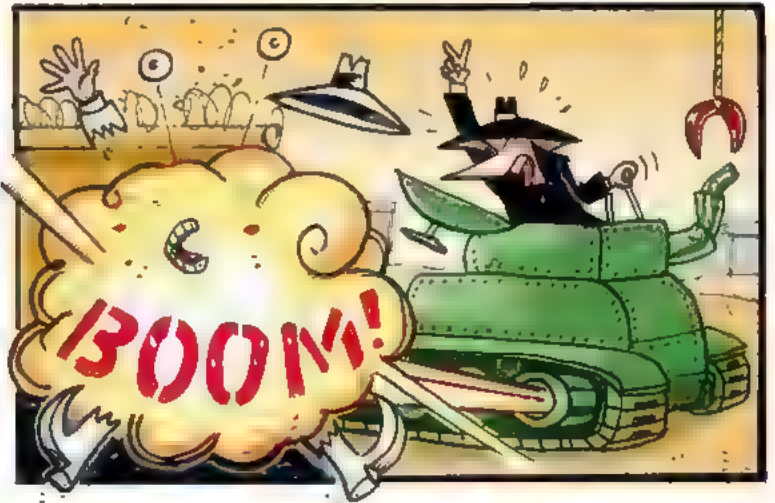
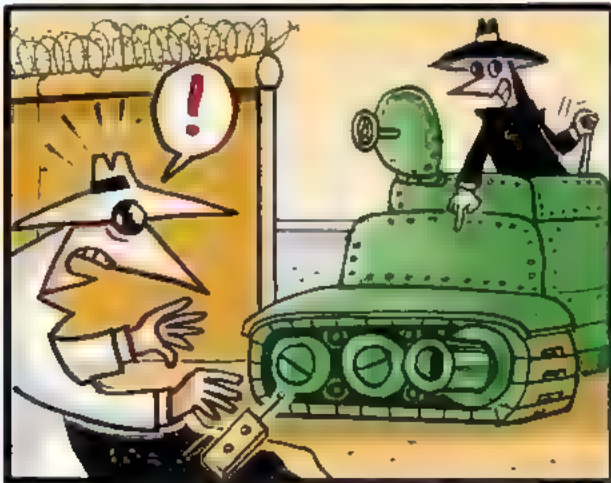
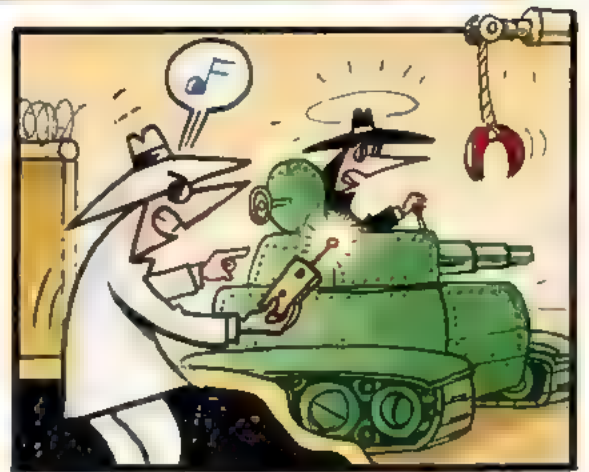
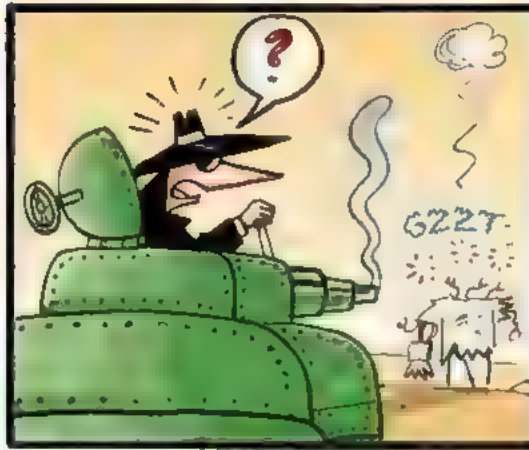
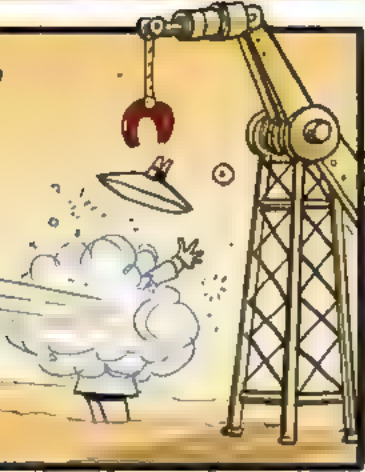
THE REASON FOR THE SEIZIN'





SPY VS SPY





Over its notorious 66-year history, MAD has left its mark on (some might say scared) generations of creative types! Here in the Wisenheim Museum, we invite those visionaries to pay tribute to (some might say get back at) the magazine that set them on their creative (some might say degenerate) course!

ANOTHER Mega Movement

FEATURING: THE WHY BOTHERS



MEGA MOVEMENT!

by GLENN BARR

MAD has been in my life for as long as I can remember. I had a great first experience when I was 10 and it came into the house. I had that strange guy on the cover I would manically pour over the MAD pages marveling at the superlatives before I even knew how to read. I knew the mag had changed me forever. And for better or for worse I formed a weird attachment to Alfred E. Neuman. After a while I would grow to idolize Merv Grucker, Jack Davis, George Woodbridge, Will Elder, Harvey Kurtzman, and the Usual Gang of Idiots. One aspect of the aforementioned was the amazing crowd scenes they would create for any given theme. So, since I'm a stickler for detail, here is my humble homage to the guys who paved the way to my depravity. — Glenn Barr

Glenn Barr is a Detroit-based artist. He has worked in many sectors of the industry, including editorial illustration, journals, editorial illustration, advertising, comic books/graphic novels, backgrounds for animation, the music industry, video games, book design, web design, character design, toy design, and several book publications compiling his paintings, drawings, and photographs. glbarr.com

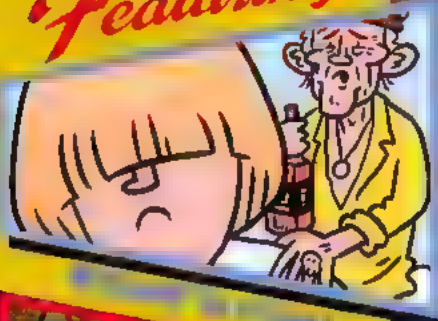
52¢

AVOIDED
BY THE
COMICS
CODE
AUTHORITY

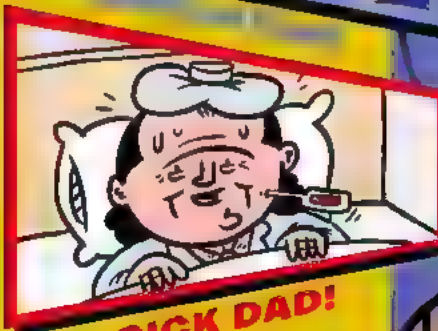
POTRZEBIE

COMICS

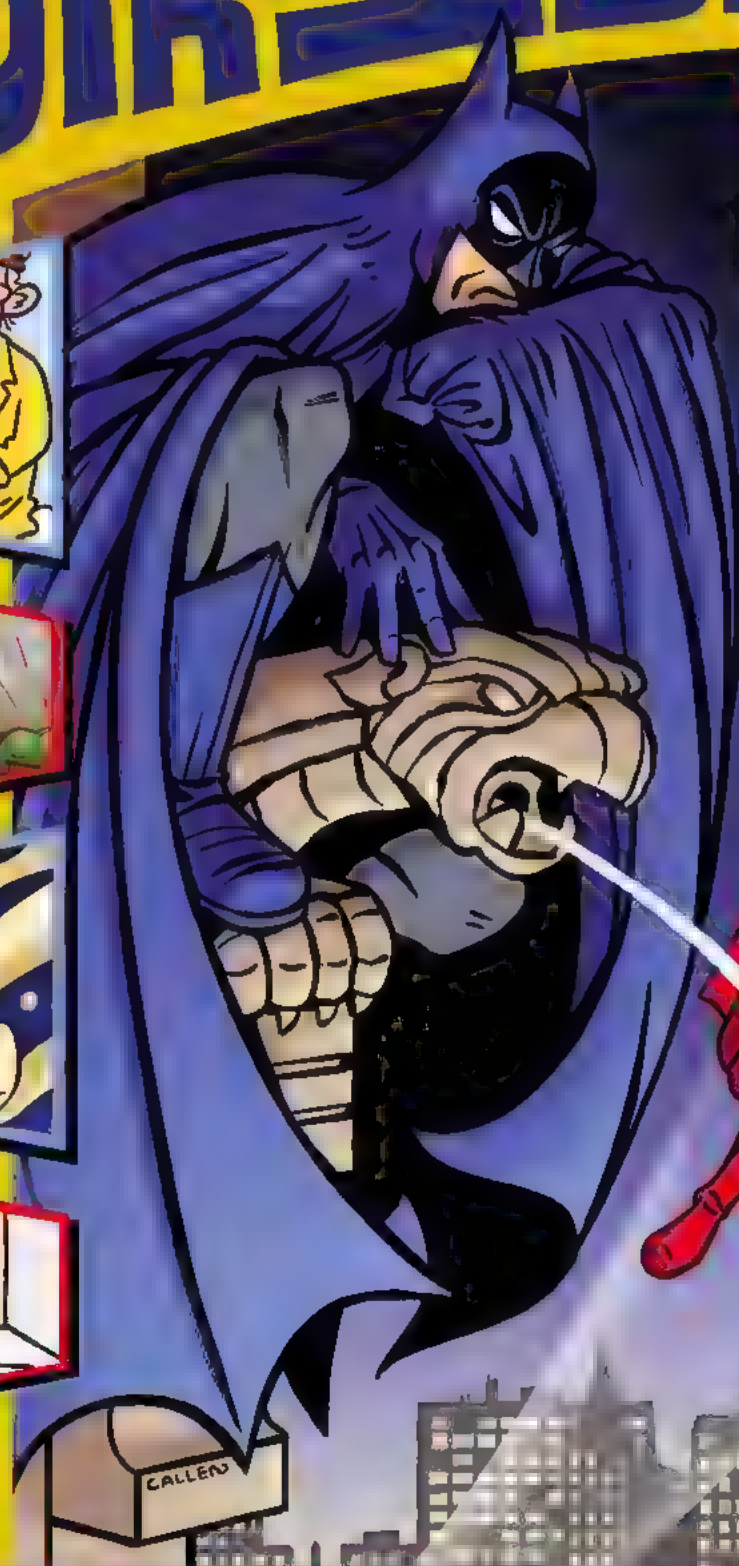
Featuring



EEE-GAD!

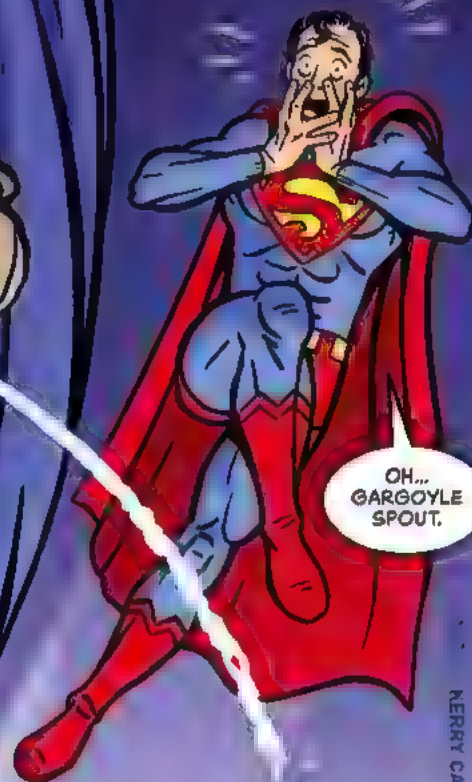


SICK DAD!



BRUCE!!

WHAT ARE
YOU..?!



OH...
GARGOYLE
SPOUT.

NERRY CALLEN

Plus

BRETT
KAVANAUGH in

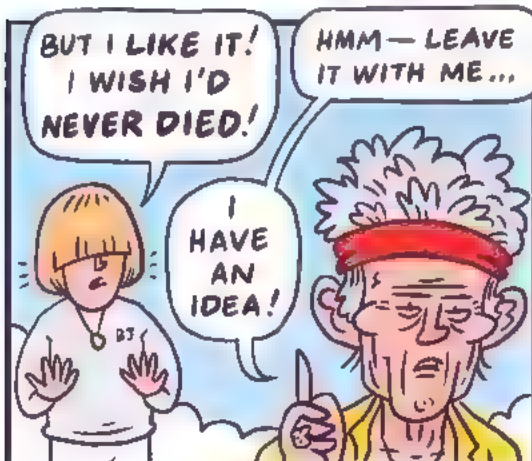
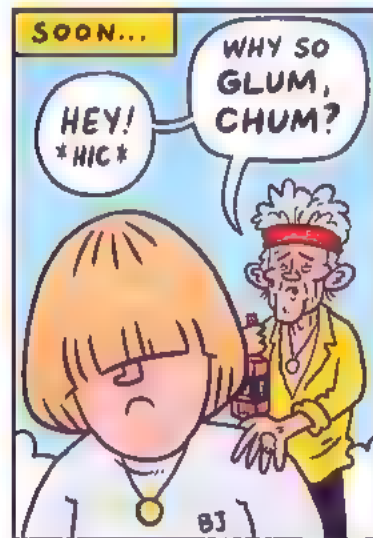
“WHATEVER LIKES BEER BURNS
AT THE MAN-THING’S TOUCH!”

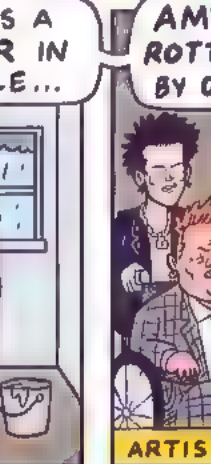
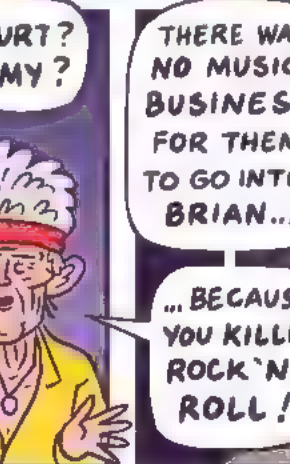
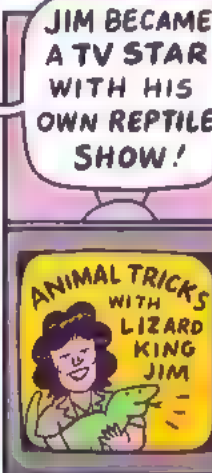
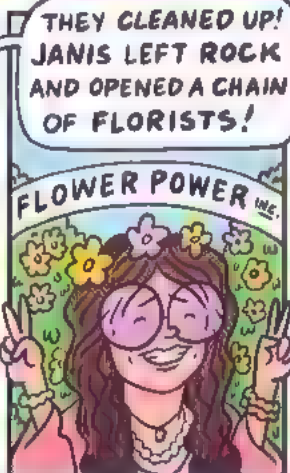
(A story our lawyers
won't let us publish!)

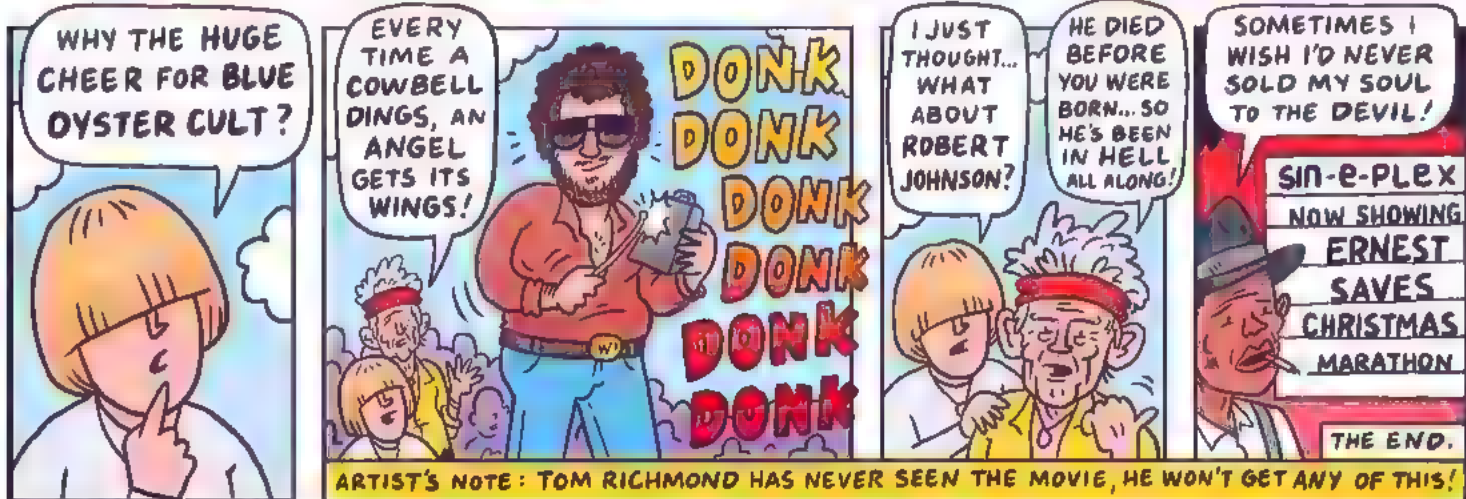
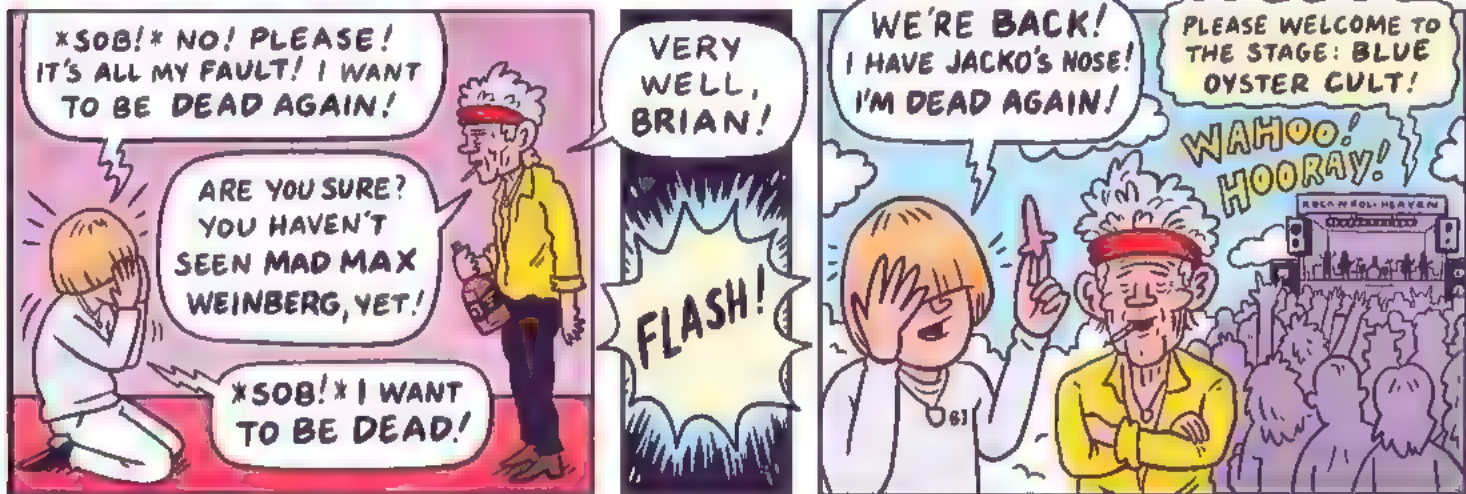
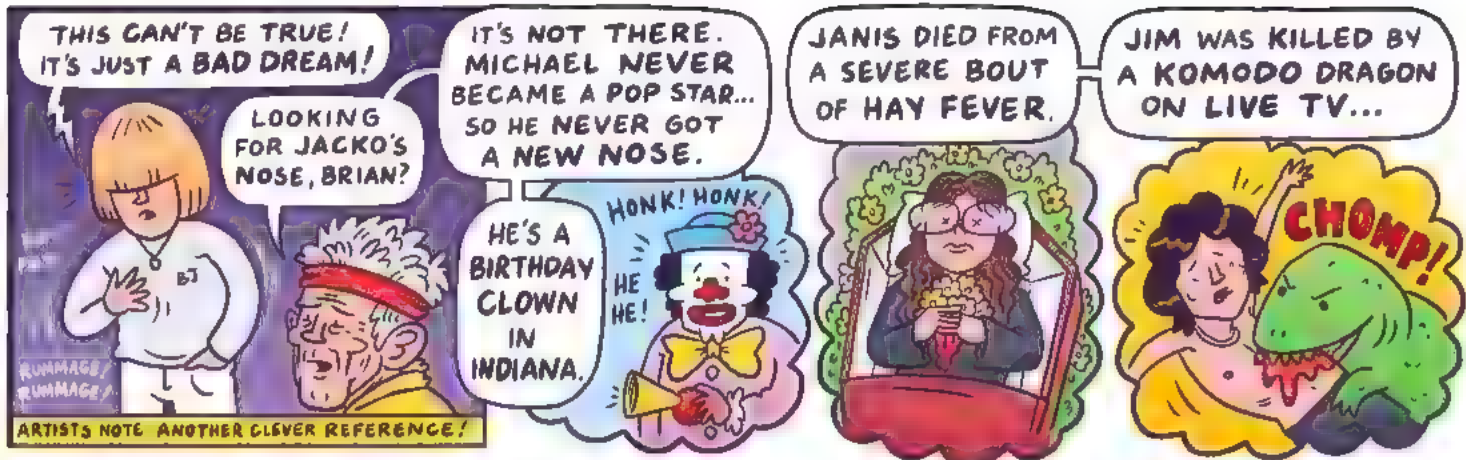
"IT'S A WONDERFUL DEATH"



**THE
27
CLUB**
BY LUKE
MCGARRY





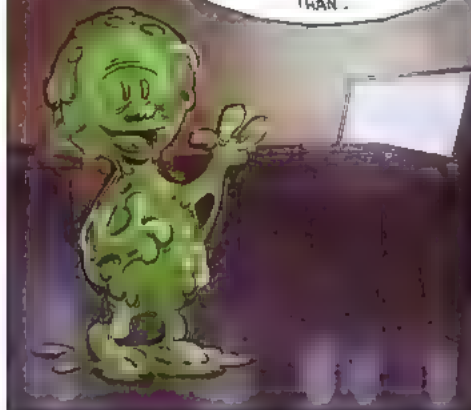


LUKEY & MUKEY

WE PULLED A FAST ONE LAST TIME, PRETENDING THERE'D BEEN A PREVIOUS CHAPTER WHEN THERE HADN'T BUT THIS TIME WE MEAN IT, SO HERE'S THE RECAP: LEFT BEHND AFTER A FIELD TRIP, YOUNG LUKEY MUENSTER ENLISTED RESEARCH SCIENTIST DR. FREDERICK "HOT PEPPER" OBIDIAH TO GIVE HIM A LIFT HOME. ALSO, FRESHLY CLONED FROM LUKEY'S SNOT DURING THE DEMONSTRATION, COTILULAR MUKEY EMERGED, FULLY FORMED LIKE ATHENA FROM ZEUS SKULL. ONLY BOOGER-BASED AND FROM A PETRI DISH INSTEAD OF A GREEK GOD'S NOGGIN.

WOW, I AM STICKY, TRANSLUCENT, RICH IN BULBOUS CONVEXITIES, AND TOUCHING MYSELF MAKES WEBS OF MUCILAGINOUS TINSEL.

IN OTHER WORDS: **GORGEOUS.** AND WHAT BETTER WAY TO EXPRESS MY SUPERIORITY THAN .



EXPRESSING IGNORANT OPINIONS ON SOCIAL MEDIA. HMM... **COMICSGATE**, NO IDEA WHAT IT IS, BUT CLEARLY SUPERHEROES SHOULD ONLY CONFORM TO FUSTY GENDER NORMS AND WHITE WHITE WHITENESS.

CLEARLY GIRLS ARE **FAKE FANS**. WHATEVER **GIRLS** ARE.

AMAZING HOW I AM **MERE MINUTES** OLD, BUT HOLD SO MANY OPINIONS.

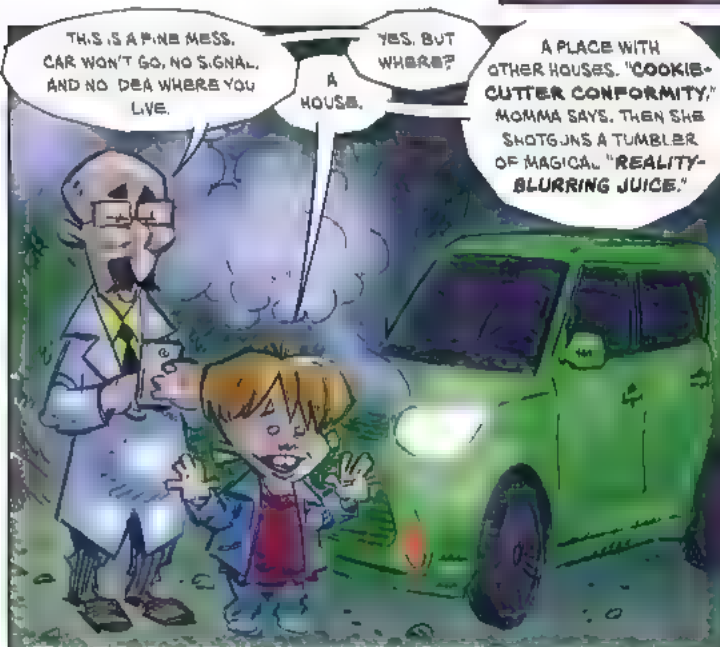


THIS IS A FINE MESS. CAR WON'T GO, NO SIGNAL, AND NO IDEA WHERE YOU LIVE.

YES, BUT WHERE?

A HOUSE.

A PLACE WITH OTHER HOUSES. "**COOKIE-CUTTER CONFORMITY**," MOMMA SAYS. THEN SHE SHOTSUNS A TUMBLER OF MAGICAL "**REALITY-BLURRING JUICE**."



HOW ON EARTH DO YOU **NOT** KNOW WHERE ON EARTH YOU LIVE?

MOMMA SAYS I'M A PUZZLEMENT GIVEN TO BAROQUE LINGUISTIC FLOURISHES, DIZZIFYING MALAPROSPISMS, AND ZERO SELF-AWARENESS.

I'D LIKE TO MEET YOUR MOTHER.

POPPA SAYS ALL THE FELLAS WANT TO MEET HER. THEN HAS SOME "**REALITY-BLURRING JUICE**" OF HIS OWN.



AMAZING HOW RIGID MY OPINIONS ARE. **MEXICANS?** NEVER HEARD OF 'EM BUT CLEARLY A **WALL** IS NEEDED.

BOY, MY DIGITS ARE POOPED FROM ALL THIS TYPING PLUS, THIS KEYBOARD IS KAPUT. IT'S LIKE THEY DON'T WANT A GUY MADE OF MUCUS TO BE ABLE TO EXPRESS HIMSELF OR SOMETHING.

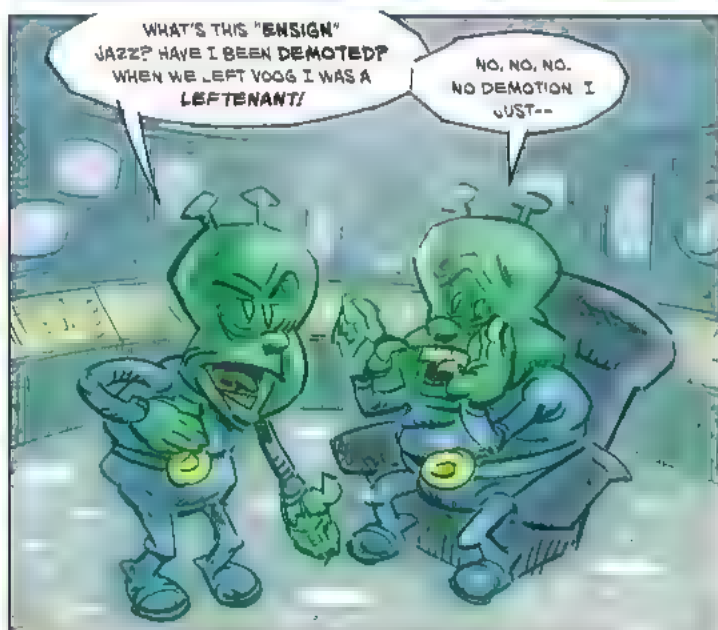
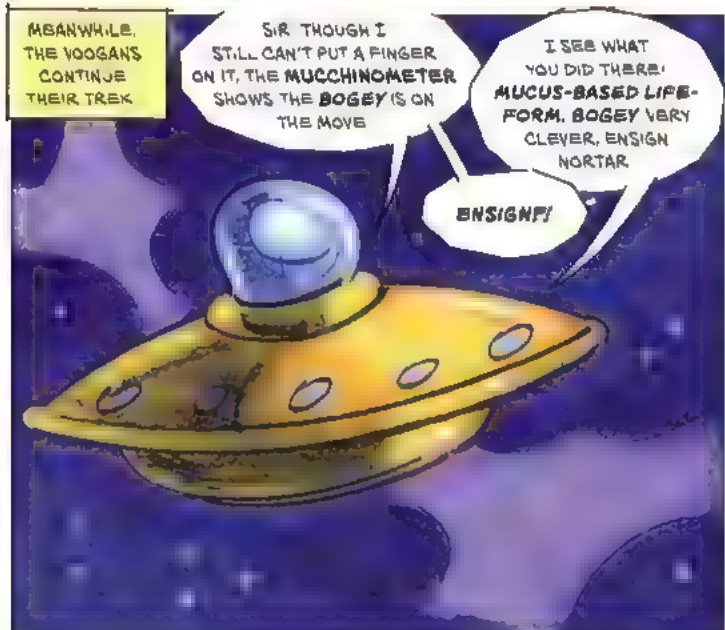
ALSO: I'M **BORED**.



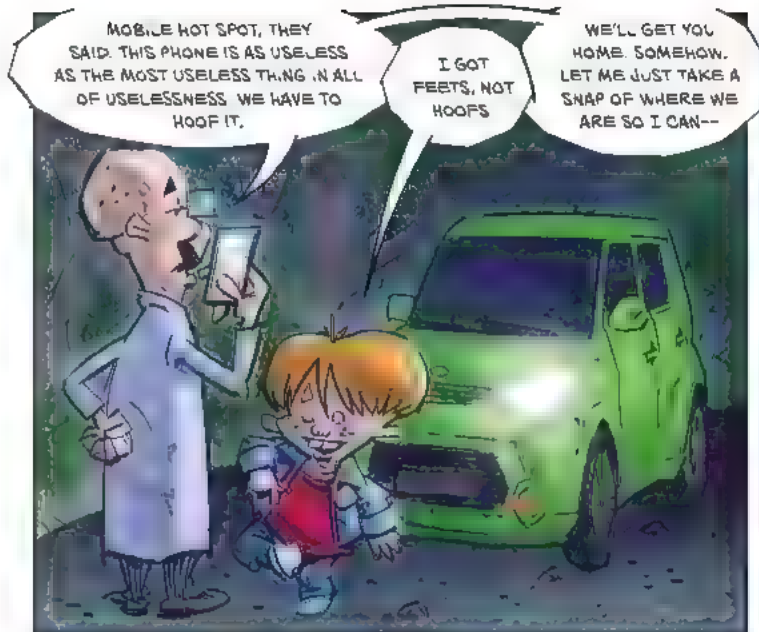
PHEW! CHUMMING THE WATERS WITH VITRIOL'S HUNGRY WORK. I DON'T EVEN KNOW IF I HAVE A DIGESTIVE TRACT BUT I'M **STARVED**.

ALSO, I NEEDED TO **WEE-WEE** AND STIR SOME MORE SHIT WHICH, THOUGH METAPHORICAL, SEEMS UNSANITARY.





*BLUEYGREENYBROWNY, A.K.A. EARTH.



MOBILE HOT SPOT, THEY SAID. THIS PHONE IS AS USELESS AS THE MOST USELESS THING IN ALL OF USELESSNESS. WE HAVE TO HOOF IT.

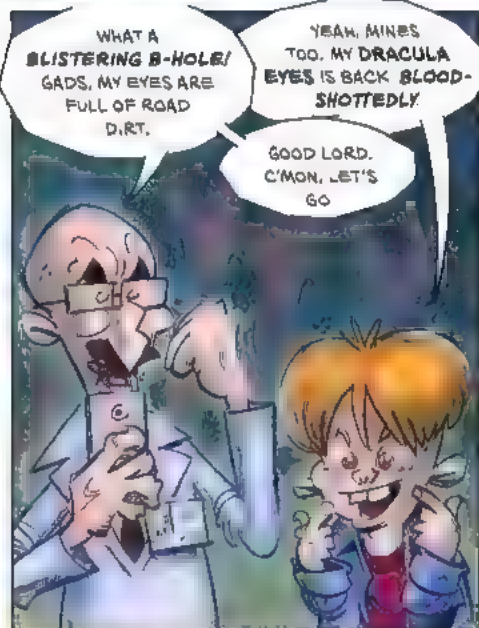
I GOT FEETS, NOT HOOFS

WE'LL GET YOU HOME SOMEHOW. LET ME JUST TAKE A SNAP OF WHERE WE ARE SO I CAN--



NICE NIGHT TO BE STRANDED, LOSER CUCKS!

GAH! SCOUGH-COUGH!



WHAT A BLISTERING B-HOLE! GADS, MY EYES ARE FULL OF ROAD DIRT.

YEAH, MINE'S TOO. MY DRACULA EYES IS BACK BLOOD-SHOTTELLED.

GOOD LORD. C'MON, LET'S GO



MAYBE I CAUGHT THE LICENSE PLATE OF THAT MANIAC AS HE--

WHAAAAAAP! IT COULDN'T BE! THAT BELLOWING PICARON WAS...

BILLOWY PICK-A-WHAT?



MY GREATEST CREATION.

WE MUST FIND IT, POSTWASTE

WHAT'S POSTWASTE? IS THERE PREWASTE? ALSO WHAT'S HASTE?



A SHORT RIDE LATER

SOB! GASP! SOB! HOW COULD ANYONE BE SO CRUEL? SO CUTTING? SO VICIOUS?

AND VISCIOUS! I'D CALL YOU AN AMBULANCE, BUT YOU LOOK MORE LIKE AN ACCORDION TO ME

GOOD LUCK WITH THE MASSIVE INTERNAL DAMAGE AND ORGAN FAILURE! ALSO SAY "CHEESE!"



"CASINO" EH? NO IDEA WHAT THAT IS, BUT SOUNDS LIKE A NURTURING ENVIRONMENT FOR A NEWLY SENTIENT LIFE-FORM AND SOMETIMES YOU JUST GOTTA ROLL THE DICE, WHICH SEEMS AN APT CLICHÉ EVEN THOUGH I DON'T KNOW WHAT IT MEANS! I AM, AFTER ALL, ONLY 90 MINUTES OLD. IN I GO!

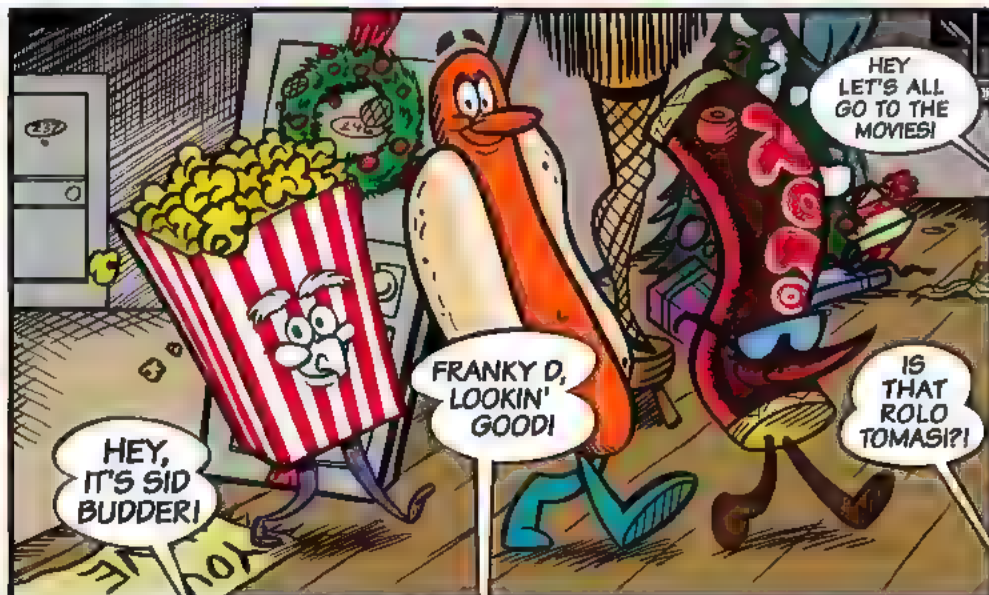
NEXT: MUKEY IN PA-HOUSE

Spaghetti & MEATBALL IN HOLIDAY

DO YOU EVER GET THE HOLIDAY BLUES? WHO CARES? WELL, MEATBALL DOES. SO HE DECIDES TO THROW A PARTY FOR THE DEPRESSED SPAGHETTI AND YOU'RE INVITED!

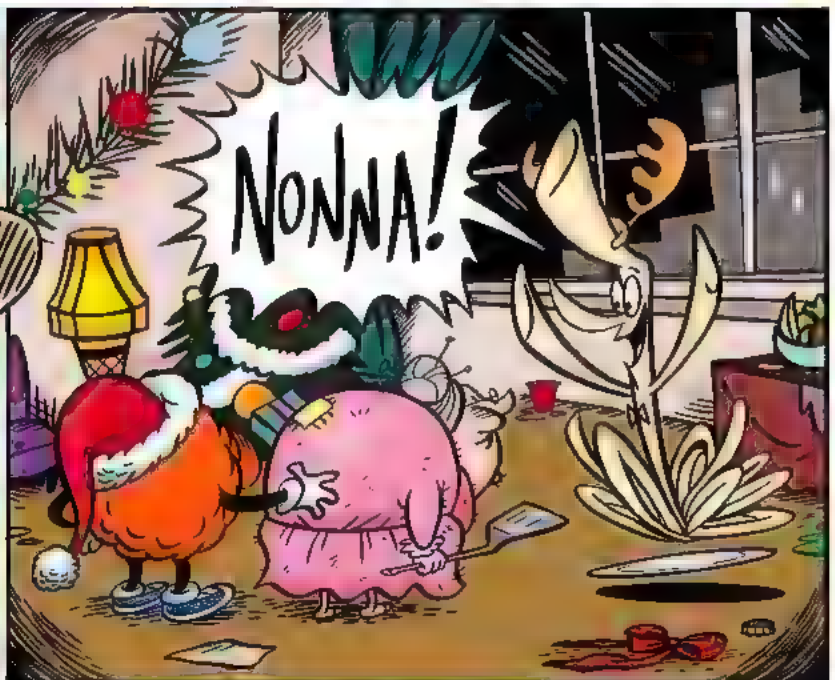
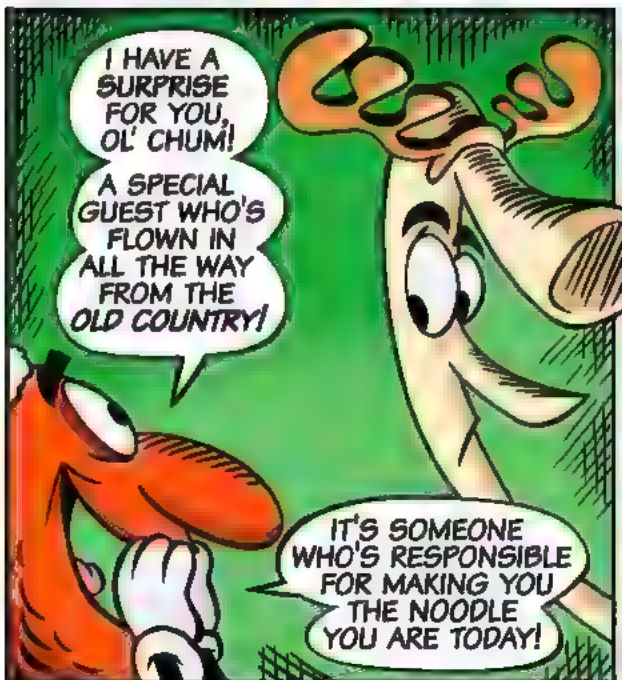
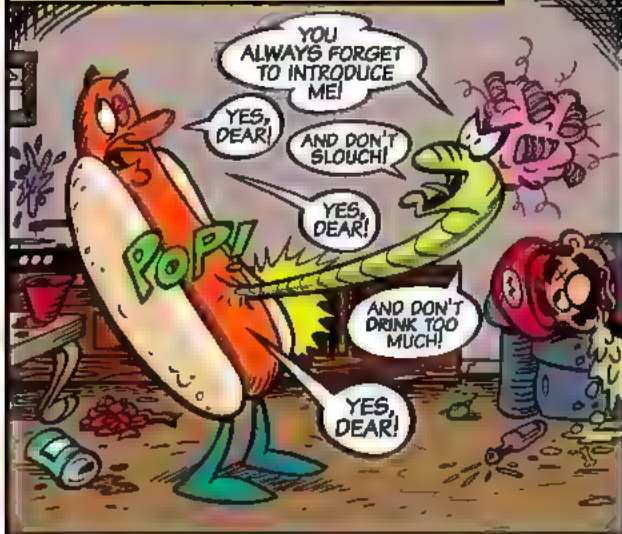


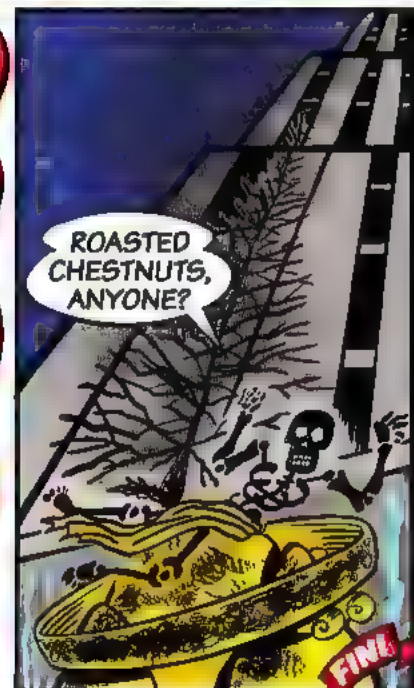
MORE GUESTS ARRIVE...



WRITERS GEORGE A. ESCOBAR & BOB LIZARRAGA ARTIST BOB LIZARRAGA

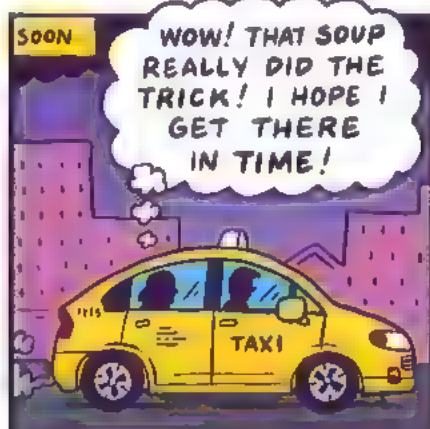
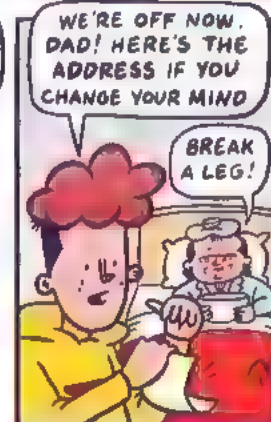
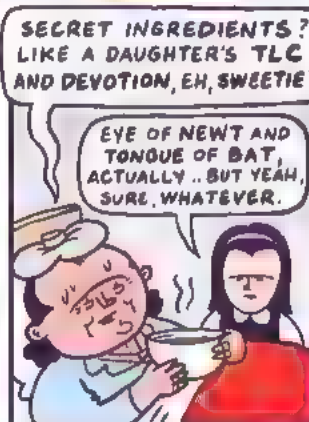
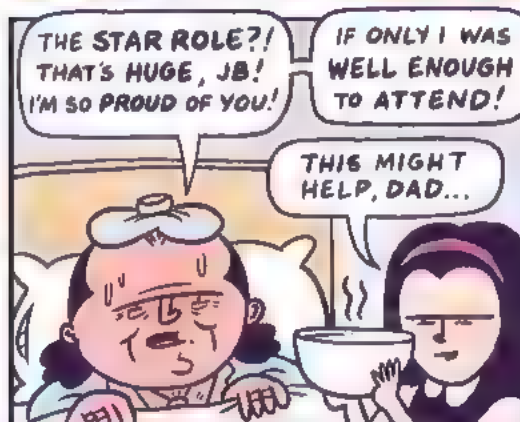
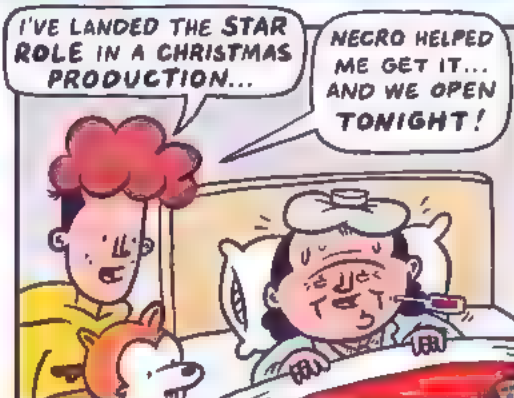
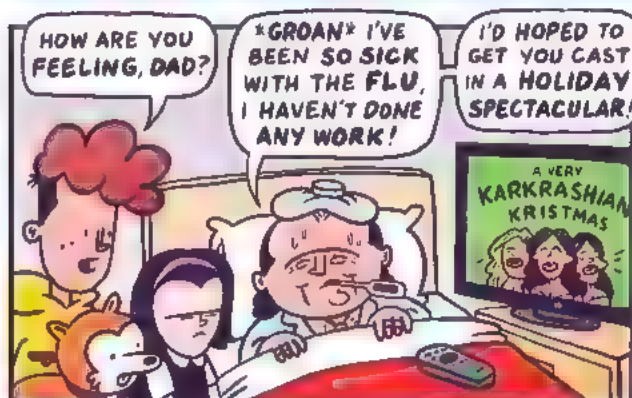
FRANKY'S WIFE WORMULINA IS ALSO HERE!





CHRISTMAS with THE CHANCERS

BY LUKE MCGARRY



PREPARED FOR THE FRONT OF THE CAR

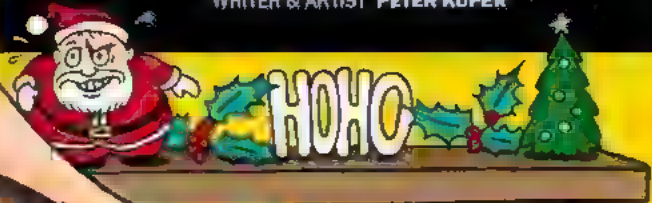


WRITER KIT LIVELY
ARTIST RICK TULKA

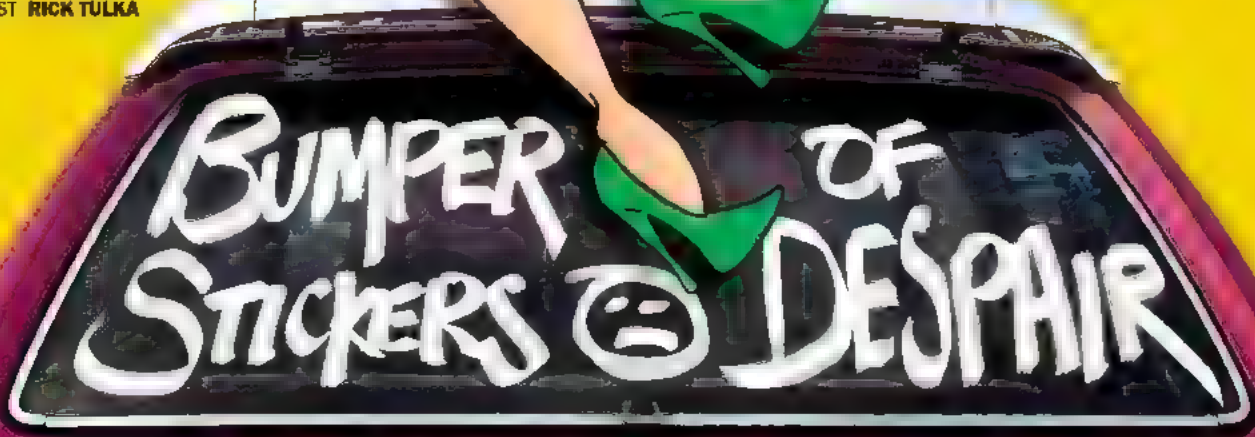


KUPER

WRITER & ARTIST PETER KUPER



TULKA



IF THIS CAR'S A BOBBIN',
I'M INSIDE A SOBBIN'

DRIVER ONLY CARRIES \$5
WORTH OF POKÉMON CARDS



.262



WARNING:
This Vehicle Careens Blindly
Into All Arby's Parking Lots



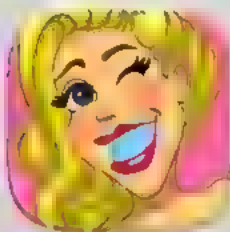
HOW'S MY TEXTING?
555-1952



WRITER KENNY KEIL

GREMLIN PHOTO COURTESY OF CHRISTOPHER ZIEMNOWICZ

LEAST-POPULAR APPS ON THE MARKET



Pornulator

Inserts your name into your favorite Internet porn scenes, putting you right in the action. "What does a girl have to do to get out of this speeding ticket, Officer David Glickman Jr.?"



TeleBuy Deluxe Edition

Automatically answers telemarketing calls, then saves you time by ordering the product or service.



KeyDetective

Offers audio prompts to help you find missing keys. "Did you check all your pockets?" "Could they be in your bag?" "Where was the last place you had them?"



LifeTicker

Calculates how much money your life is costing you. A digital counter ticks relentlessly upward and an alarm alerts you every \$10,000. Deluxe version offers a pause command for meals and nighttime.



BetterLateThanNever XL

Reminds you of important appointments and occasions...a bit late. "Your mother's birthday ended two hours ago." "Your life insurance premium was due yesterday."



Don't Look At Me

Emits a brief, loud fart sound whenever you sneeze or rise from a chair.



The iRepeat Version 1.2

This app is sure to get big laughs at parties. It has no practical function except to renew its \$9.95 monthly charge on the first of every month.



TransMate Free Version

This free app will do its very best to translate your words into a foreign language. The \$19.95 version is reported to be far more reliable.

WRITER MIKE ARMSTRONG
ARTIST SARAH CHALEK



NUTS! NUTS! NUTS! DID ANYONE EVER ASK ME WHAT I WANTED TO CRACK? NO-O!

WRITER MIKE ARMSTRONG ARTIST SARAH CHALEK



DADDY'S ISSUES

Nothing witty here, I just want you all to know how much

I LOVE the new MAD Magazine.

I feel like a kid again waiting for my new issue to arrive in the mailbox, and then laugh out loud as I read it cover to cover. I just renewed for three years. Thank you for making MAD better than ever. Keep at it.

Aaron Schmidt, via email

Reader since 1986, when I'd sneak my dad's issues

Wholly Schmidt—Thanks for leaving the wittiness to trained professionals! We appreciate the awesome accolades we **definitely** didn't bribe you for... (Did medium end up fitting you okay?) Knowing that we've even touched **one** fan makes all our hard work worth it. Not financially, of course, but spiritually. Say, would you mind sneaking some subscription cards into your friends' pockets? Alfred needs a new pair of red sneakers!

—Alex Taffer, MAD Intern and Chief Letter Answerer

CONGRATS! IT'S AN IDIOT!

Here's a photo of my wife **Danielle Thurm**, about to give birth to our first child. We're big fans of MAD Magazine. If it's a boy we promise to name him Alfred!

**Love, Josh Thurm,
St. Louis, MO**

Jubilant Josh—Mazel to you and this MAD mommy! We'll add "Inducing labor" to the list of weird things MAD is good for! How is little Alfie (or maybe Moxie, if she's a girl)? Be sure to keep copies of MAD around the nursery and we know your kid will be saying "What, me poopy?" in no time! —AT



MAD'S SHANNON WHEELER AND GIDEON KENDALL WIN EISNER!

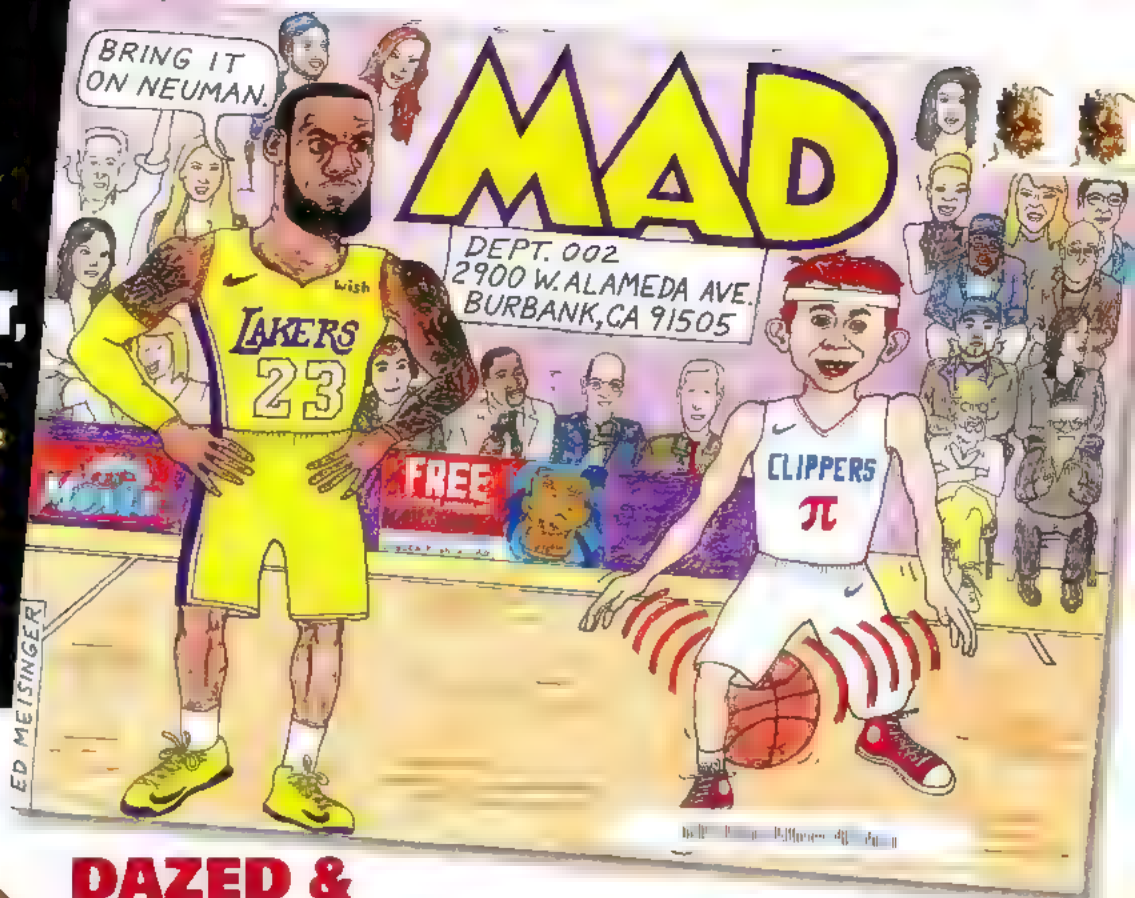
No, these aren't the Ghosts of Eisner Awards past, present, and future; it's MAD regular **Shannon Wheeler** (left), new member of the Usual Gang of Idiots **Gideon Kendall** (center), and **Josh O'Neill** from *Little Nemo's Big New Dreams*, all celebrating their win for their work on Harvey Kurtzman's *A Christmas Carol*. Scrooge wants to know what day it is? Why, it's Eisner's Day, sir!

PHOTO COURTESY OF JIM SALAZAR

COMING!



This art looks familiar... (flips through MAD #1). Wait, it is! This is a second slam dunk from **Ed Meisinger**, whose excellent envelope we just exhibited in ye olde April 2018! Come on, time to step it up and send in your own envelope art, lest Ed hoard all the acclaim!



DAZED & FAKE NEWS

Y'all, could you kindly recap the news from the past few years, as I spent much of that time in college and unplugged from current events. I recently re-subscribed to your fine magazine, and am confused as to the truthfulness of the recent content in MAD, especially the **puzzling references to Donald Trump as "president"**—this must be a satire of a satire???

Melissa Candek, Las Vegas, NV

Mystified Melissa—We hate to be the bearer of fake news, so we won't lie to you! It's true! But is Trump a satire of a satire, or a satire of a fat tire? Anyway, you might want to go back to college where you can avoid the news for another few years. Just don't let your subscription to MAD lapse! —AT



ALFRED LOOK-ALIKE

Kali

My daughter recently lost her front tooth. Being the respectable father that I am, I rushed downstairs and grabbed the filthy Alfred E. Neuman from the vintage MAD Magazine Halloween costume from when I was a kid. She looks so cute. So she lost two things that day, a tooth and respect for her old man!

Rob Messick, via email

Respectable Rob—Say, no more these days have it good. In our day, we were lucky if the tooth fairy left us one old prosthetic ear, let alone two! But we can't stay angry when gazing at a face so adorably MAD; just look at her! Someday she'll grow a new tooth and she'll regain her respect for the old man, but she'll never get rid of the lick from those horrible outer ears. Good god, man! What are you thinking? —AT

I've been operating a local **MAD Magazine museum** for the last few years. Attached is a picture of me welcoming the all-new MAD Magazine #1 as a permanent addition to my museum's collection. So far I've only had one guest, who then told me that I'm an idiot for wasting all my time and money on this trash. Any advice to make my MAD Magazine Museum more successful?



Peter O'Dell Minneapolis, MN

Peter, Peter, Avid Reader—What's wrong with being an idiot? We may

be biased, but we wear our idiosyncrasy like a badge of honor! Say, would you want one of our Idiot Badges for your gallery? Could boost business. Or why not set out bait? Maybe shake the magazine on the sidewalk and leave a trail of scintillating subscription cards! Use a recent issue—we just gave those cards a gorgeous makeover! Peter, we'd like to add to your museum by sending you a genuine, certified Alfred E. Neuman Christmas ornament! —AT

Each day we receive dozens of letters ranging from "barely legible" to "we should report this to the proper authorities." And though most are doomed to be fed into the MAD intern's shredder, occasionally we stumble upon a perfect candidate for...

THE MADIFESTO

I WAS SCREAMING
ALL THIS OUTSIDE YOUR OFFICES
ON BROADWAY UNTIL A
TRAFFIC COP TOLD ME YOU
CLOWNS MOVED TO LOS ANGELES.
OOH LA LA!

YOU OWE ME A STAMP.
—TONY



"To thine own self be true."

These piercingly poetic words were penned by none other than William Shakespeare, who was listed as one of the 50 greatest writers of all time by *People* magazine. It's a little hard to decipher at first, but if you move the words around, you can see why he achieved such a high honor: "Be true to thine own self" is some pretty solid advice! So today I stand before you, true to thine: I am proud to be one of those guys who goes to Times Square every New Year's Eve dressed in a giant diaper.

Tradition is important. That's why, every December 31, I don a diaper, a sash with the new year written on it, and an overly large top hat to create the illusion that I am a small baby wearing a normal-sized top hat. This is the finery of Baby New Year. (The hat can be cumbersome, as it tends to act like a sail and get swept away by the wind, but I digress.)

Today, I speak for all Babies New Year. We've noticed that many of you seem "offended" by our traditions. All you see is a full-grown man wearing a fecal and urine receptacle made for those who cannot control their waste. *For shame!* Like all forms of discrimination, this is born out of ignorance. So please allow me to answer some common questions:

Q: Are the diapers practical or purely ornamental?

A: Depends! (I'm sorry. I'm both a Baby New Year and a father who loves puns.)

Q: Are you affiliated with those guys who dress as Father Time?

A: Screw those guys straight to hell! Baby New Year has no dominion over time. (No one does.)

Q: Back off.

A: That's not a question, but sure, I don't want any trouble.

Why is it wrong to dress as Baby New Year, but completely okay to have your children sit on the lap of some stranger because he's dressed like ol' Saint Nick? Store Santas sit in their heated Ivory Malls and charge you your hard-earned cash, while we're out in the cold getting frostbite on our cheeks and tummies for **free**. And somehow we're the social pariahs? Did somebody say "double standard"?

I need to wrap this up. I've got four minutes left on this computer and the librarian is mean-mugging me.

So to my fellow New Yorkers, when you think of William Shakespeare, I hope you think, too, of all the brave men dressed as Baby New Year. We are being true to ourselves, and for that we deserve respect. Or at the very least, please stop asking if we actually use the diapers. The answer is: **I don't know.** I'm sure some have. The Olive Garden in Times Square is pretty strict with their "restrooms are for paying customers only" policy.

Happy New Year,
Baby New Year
(Tony Santobello, Queens, NY)

Sometimes it's not enough for us to have your fan mail—we also want your SOUL. Well, we finally figured out a way to take that from you: Just send us a true story about something STUPID you actually did, and acclaimed cartoonist **Mike Holmes** might make it into a comic strip! It's...

REAL, DUMB



This issue's story submitted by MAD Associate Editor, **Paula Sevenbergen**. After helping launch the new MAD, Paula paused her contributions to our idiosyncrasy to write for television! We look forward to seeing her hard work pay off, then making fun of it.

Have a real, dumb story that happened to you? Want to share your shame with the world by having it illustrated in MAD? Write it up and send it to realdumb@madmagazine.com! If it's dumb enough, we'll make it into a comic!

All stories submitted to realdumb@madmagazine.com may be edited (including changing the names of people or places mentioned in the story), illustrated at MAD's discretion, and published in MAD's Real, Dumb feature or in any MAD publication in any format and will not be returned.

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20

WHAT PROMINENT
RACIST FIXTURE
WAS TAKEN DOWN
THIS YEAR?

SWIPE FROM B TO A TO FOLD

A



B



A B



PAPA

JOHN.

A B